OUTLOOKS

CANADA'S **GLBT** MAGAZINE

ISSUE 187

TOP 50
GREATEST GAY TRAVEL EXPERIENCES

UNDERSTANDING
UGANDA
A COUNTRY OF HATE

MILD TO WILD
FABULOUS FT. LAUDERDALE

PFLAG TORONTO
AN ORGANIZATION IN CRISIS

GLBT REFUGEES
HOW CAN WE HELP?

NELLY FURTADO
FOREVER YOUNG

Suggested Retail $5.50 Canada/US

12

0 94922 30128 4

outlooks.ca

AIR CANADA VACATIONS

Oh, the places you'll go

28 gay-friendly destinations throughout the **US,** the **Caribbean, Europe** and **South America**

Boston • Chicago • Hawaii • Las Vegas
Los Angeles • New York • San Francisco

Aruba • Bermuda • Cancun/Riviera Maya
Los Cabos • Puerto Vallarta • Punta Cana
San José (Costa Rica)

Athens • Barcelona • Brussels • Dublin
Frankfurt • Geneva • London • Madrid
Munich • Paris • Rome • Tel Aviv • Zurich

Buenos Aires

aeroplan
Rewarding Life

IGLTA
International Gay & Lesbian Travel Association

Call 1 866 529-2079 or your travel agent
aircanadavacations.com/gayandlesbian

®Aeroplan is a registered trademark of Aeroplan Canada Inc. ®Air Canada Vacations is a registered trademark of Air Canada, used under license by Touram Limited Partnership, 2700 Matheson Blvd. East, Mississauga ON. Visit www.aircanadavacations.com for up-to-date information. Mississauga ON. Visit www.aircanadavacations.com for up-to-date information.

4621

OUTLOOKS CANADA'S GLBT MAGAZINE

Issue 187

lifestyle

8 International News
12 Regional News
19 How Parliament Failed CAMR
20 Canadian Trailblazers
25 A Hand to Freedom - Assisting LGBT Refugees
30 Understanding Uganda

travel

34 Randall on the Road / Travel News
35 Oil Me Up! 48 Gay Hours in Houston
40 Top 50 Greatest Gay Travel Experiences (PT 1)
43 Fort Lauderdale, Florida

tastes

50 The Gay Gastronome
52 Top Wines in Canada Under $20
54 Tastes of Canada
55 Top Chef - Janice Robillard

looks

56 Quick Looks – The Style Guys
57 Trend Watch
58 Winter White
60 Tech Support - Parajumpers
61 Suitably Tailored
66 Toronto's Hidden Gem - Credo

out-spoken

6 Editor's Notebook
14 Couch Talk
16 Mistress Manners
18 Not That Kind of Girl
22 Thoughts from the Hill
65 Shavings from My Head

arts & entertainment

28 Toronto - Fabulous Fun All Winter Long
68 FRAMED - Todd White
70 Nelly Furtado: Forever Young
72 All Aboard Priscilla - Tony Sheldon

inside-out

74 Out & About
77 Don't You Wish
77 Horoscope
78 Marketplace

OUTLOOKS

CANADA'S **GLBT** MAGAZINE

Beginning February 2011 OUTLOOKS Magazine

will be available exclusively by subscription and a network of retail outlets across Canada.

BENEFITS TO YOU:

- More widely accessible in your neighbourhood.
- Helping support Canada's GLBT organizations, businesses, and interests.
- A percentage of all retail sales is donated toward AIDS research.

Suggested Retail:
$5.50 plus GST & HST
See page 76 for Subscription Savings.

CANFAR
CANADIAN FOUNDATION FOR AIDS RESEARCH | FONDATION CANADIENNE DE RECHERCHE SUR LE SIDA

Model: Shane Roberts
Photographer: Mathew Wilson
www.mathewwilsonphotography.com

OUTLOOKS
CANADA'S GLBT MAGAZINE

www.outlooks.ca

Brett Taylor
btaylor@outlooks.ca
Publishing Editor

Len Mastaler
len@outlooks.ca
Fashion Director

Karin Van Scoyoc
production@outlooks.ca
Artistic Director

Randall Shirley
rshirley@outlooks.ca
Travel Editor

Terry Demco
tdemco@outlooks.ca
Online Production

Perry Mah
pmah@outlooks.ca
403-.228.1157
Advertising Director

Dale Smith
dsmith@outlooks.ca
Political Editor

Marlene Hall
editor@outlooks.ca
Proofing Editor

Michael Wile
mwile@outlooks.ca
416.531.1483
Account Executive - Toronto

Jason Krell / Aly Velji
thestyleguys@outlooks.ca
Fashion Editors

Zack Anthony
zanthony@outlooks.ca
778.323.3579
Account Executive - Vancouver

David Roa
droa@outlooks.ca
403.228.1157
Account Executive - Calgary

Brett Taylor, Ralph Higgins, Michael Ain, Kevin Alderson, Ph.D., Mistress Manners, Mette Bach, Dale Smith, David King, Doug Ross, Bryen Dunn, Randall Shirley, DJ Mitchell, Jason Krell, Aly Velji, J. Corbett Holmes, Brandon Voss, Charlene Lichtenstein
Contributing Writers

Richard Bernardin, Mathew Wilson, Irene Miller, Union Créative, Randall Shirley, Greater Houston CVB/Jim Olive, Dreamstime.com, Jen Hall, Peking Lounge, Mint Interiors, Modern Karibou, Dutch Green Design, Colin Way, Robert Best, Credo, The Hamilton Gallery, Barry Piersdorff, Jacksonphotografix, Erick Contreras, Perry Mah, Rick Day
Contributing Photographers / Illustrators

CONTACT US
(403) 228-1157 main office
(403) 228-7735 facsimile
1-888-228-1157 toll free
main@outlooks.ca

Opinions expressed in *OUTLOOKS Magazine* are those of individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the magazine. All contents are copyright and may not be reproduced in part or in whole without written consent. The appearance of an ad in *OUTLOOKS Magazine* does not mean that the magazine endorses the advertiser. The appearance of a model or other photographic subjects does not necessarily indicate their sexuality. *OUTLOOKS* welcomes new contributors. Please contact our editorial department before submitting written material, photographs and artwork. *OUTLOOKS Magazine* does not return unsolicited materials and is not responsible for their loss, damage or other injury.

OUTLOOKS Magazine is printed and produced in Canada ten times a year.

On the Cover:
Nelly Furtado, in a stunning photo by Richard Bernardin, tells us about the gay inspiration for her new nightlife anthem.

Also, see the first of a three-part series on international LGBTQ refugees and asylum-seekers, as OUTLOOKS speaks with three Canadians working on the front lines about how we can all be doing more than we might think.

Follow us:

Join our facebook Group

facebook.com/group.php?gid=33575716919

outlooksmagazine.blogspot.com

follow us on twitter

twitter.com/outlooks

Send letters to **editor@outlooks.ca**,
or by mail to OUTLOOKS
#303, 1235 - 17 Avenue SW,
Calgary, AB, Canada T2T 0C2,
or by Fax: (403) 228-7735

Please Recycle

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Periodical Fund (CPF) for our publishing activities.

Canada

ISSN 1704-7927
National Library of Canada Ottawa

~ BRETT TAYLOR

That's So Gay...

If you work with folks under the age of, let's say, 25, or have family in that age range, you quite possibly have heard them utter the phrase, "That's so gay."

How much do you cringe when you walk by a group of kids and someone says, "That's so gay!" and they're not talking about your pointed Italian shoes or your designer shirt with more colours than even Benjamin Moore has to offer, but rather something one of their friends just said? It sucks. When someone says "That's so gay" in lieu of "That's so stupid," they're saying that everything about gay people is stupid. Sure, it may not be meant that way, but if we continue to let people use words like "gay" and "retard" in a negative way, people get hurt.

You know that old saying, "Sticks and stones may break my bones; but words will never hurt me."? Well, that is wrong, because **words do hurt**! The more you're allowed to perpetuate the incorrect use of a word, the harder it is to get people to realize what they're doing.

And it's not just the older teens and young adults that are using this derogatory comment in their daily lives. Would you believe that a number of American studies of groups of elementary school-aged children found that, on average, 71 percent of students in Grades 6 and 7 have used the line at least once daily, and that 46 percent of students in Grade 2 do likewise. The Grade 2 statistic blows me away!

So, although, like I said, when the comment is being used, it is not necessarily being used as a direct gay-related assault, it is projecting the reinforcement of what society considers negative or wrong. It may be being done innocently; but, regardless, the outcomes are the same. Children grow up identifying that anything that is "gay" is bad or stupid. And subsequent socialization and peer groups can tend to help solidify that belief over the years.

As innocent as it is, it is still tough to hear. Having had a past life, I have two sons—one is 29 and the other is 25. Over the years, I have heard them both use the expression in conversations with their friends, and even in conversations with my husband and me. And these boys are anything but homophobic! I have raised them as a single parent out gay man since they were 14 and 9 respectively, and they have more "Auntie Rays and Auntie Terrys" than you can shake a stick at. But the term still slides in there every so often; but not as much now, since they realized what effect it can have on other people.

In my day, the line was "that's just retarded." But you rarely hear it used anymore these days, because it is not socially acceptable. That's because the Special Olympics started a campaign to rid the word "retard" from casual conversation. It started when the organization railed against the use of the word in the hilarious film "Tropic Thunder." I have to admit, when I heard it in the movie, I stopped laughing.

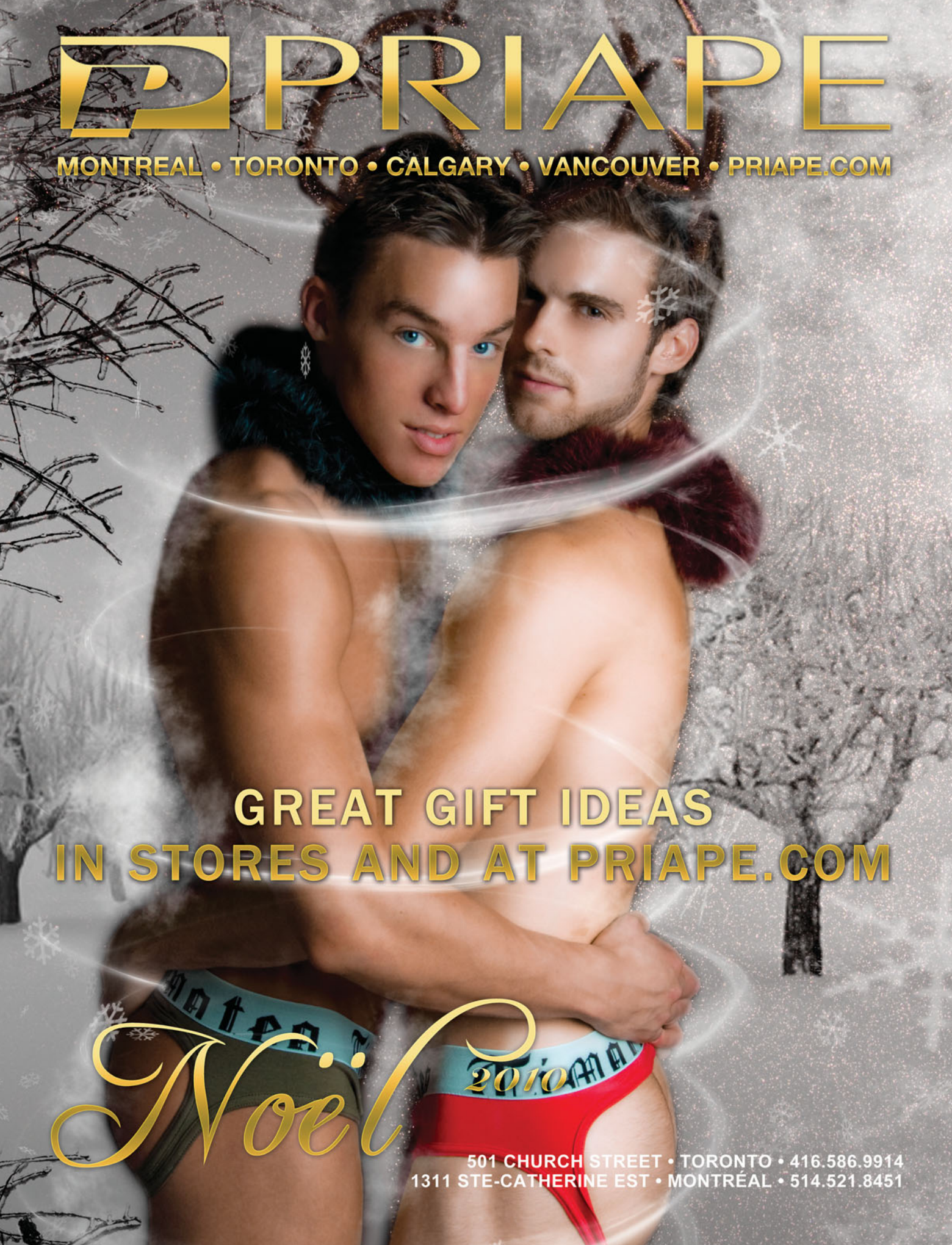
I also have an 18-year-old stepdaughter, who lives with us full-time, and she has become somewhat of a one-woman crusade against the expression, "That's so gay." Interestingly enough, when she brings up her stand on the derogatory comment with her peers and kids at school, she finds that most take a second look at the comment and agree with her that it is a pretty stupid comment to make.

Most people don't bat an eye when someone says "gay" or "retard." And that's wrong. Even the American President made a major faux pas on late night TV. A little more than a month ago, Barack Obama was on "The Tonight Show" with Jay Leno and said his lack of bowling ability was "like the Special Olympics or something"? People laughed; but, in reality, it was a big misstep, especially from someone who talks so much about inclusion.

So, maybe we—as the gay community—need to make people aware that the "G" word used in a negative context is as offensive as the "R" word. The next time you hear someone—a friend, stranger, or some guy you just picked up at a bar—say, "That's so gay," tell that person it's just not cool. And then call that person a moron. I think that word is still OK to use.

That's the way I see it anyway. O

Your starting point for:
Unbiased
Up-to-date FREE
HIV & hepatitis C information.
In print, online, over the phone.
1.800.263.1638 • www.catie.ca
CATIE
Canada's source for HIV and hepatitis C information
HEPATITIS C
www.hepCinfo.ca


PRIAPE
MONTREAL • TORONTO • CALGARY • VANCOUVER • PRIAPE.COM
GREAT GIFT IDEAS
IN STORES AND AT PRIAPE.COM
Noël
2010
501 CHURCH STREET • TORONTO • 416.586.9914
1311 STE-CATHERINE EST • MONTRÉAL • 514.521.8451

Don't Tell; Yes, Tell; No, Don't Tell

Following the ruling by federal Judge Philips, striking down the policy of Don't Ask, Don't Tell, recruiters were told by the Pentagon that they could sign up openly gay persons who wanted to join the military, but must also inform them that the change could be reversed later. Almost immediately, Dan Choi, an outspoken opponent of the policy and Arabic linguist who served in the American military in Iraq until discharged under DADT, went to the Times Square recruitment office to re-enlist. After being made to wait outside for almost fifteen minutes, Choi was allowed into the recruitment office where he joined the Army. (Ironically, Choi, the former Marine, is now one year too old to sign up as a Marine.) Choi's status, along with all queer members of the military, is now up in the air since the Ninth Court of Appeal has granted a stay on the ruling by Judge Phillips.

The recent elections in the United States, in which the Republicans made substantial gains, mean that many policies and issues of interest to LGBT people will have an even more difficult road to travel toward gaining equal rights.

British Lesbians Challenge Ban on Same-Sex Marriage

Two lesbians, Rev. Sharon Ferguson and Franka Strietzel, applied for a marriage license in England, knowing that the request would be denied; only civil partnerships are currently available to same-sex couples. This denial of a marriage licence for the two women will now be challenged in the courts, arguing that requiring marriage to be between opposite gender persons is discriminatory and contravenes several articles of the Human Rights Act of the United Kingdom. Several straight couples are also planning to challenge the legal restrictions by applying for civil partnerships, which, by law, are restricted to same-sex partners.

The action is part of the Equal Love campaign coordinated by well-known activist Peter Tatchell and by the queer rights organization, OutRage!

Four Gay Kiwis Honoured by Arts Organization

The Arts Foundation Laureate Awards of New Zealand have recognized the achievement of four gay New Zealand men in the arts community of the country. Gareth Farr, composer; Stuart Devenie, actor; Micheal Parmenter, choreographer; and potter/designer, John Parker, were all recipients of the Laureate Awards which carries a cash prize of $50,000 each. The Arts Foundation was started in 2000 and gives annual awards to those who have made a significant and influential contribution to the arts of New Zealand.

Arkansas School Board Member Faces Backlash over Homophobic Remarks

A firestorm of anger and outrage arose after it was discovered that Clint McCance, a member of the Arkansas School Board, had posted on his Facebook page, virulently hateful and homophobic remarks about Spirit Day, an international day to mark the recent spate of suicides among LGBT teens. McCance not only was not in favour of such a day, he went on at length about his disgust with the "sin" of homosexuality and how he would disown his own children if they were gay, while using many homophobic epithets throughout his tirade.

McCance's remarks were condemned publicly by the School Board and multiple protests, demonstrations and calls for his resignation came flooding in. McCance eventually resigned and appeared on CNN, where he spoke to Anderson Cooper, expressing regret over his remarks and offering an apology of sorts to the families of the children who had committed suicide.

Pope Met By Kiss-In During Visit To Spain

While thousands lined the streets of Barcelona during the Pontiff's visit in November, not all of them had gathered to cheer and applaud him. A group of about 200 LGBT activists staged a kiss-in as the Popemobile passed by. The smoochers were protesting the church's strong stance against homosexuality. The Catholic Church continues to promulgate the belief that homosexuality is a disorder.

The Pope, in turn, spoke strongly against Spain's social policies such as access to abortion, divorce and same-sex marriage. He described these policies as anti-church, although many in the European Union would describe them merely as a realistic reflection of today's society. The Pope made no mention or acknowledgement of the lip-locked protesters.

2011 NISSAN JUKE

Nissan JUKE is unlike any other vehicle in its category. Take it's eye catching, trendy styling, add the premium drive experience and exceptionally competitive pricing. And you get a crossover that simply cannot be ignored!

Don't miss out on being one of the first to own this vehicle!

Car shopping should be fun! At Brasso Nissan we roll out the "red carpet" and provide an excellent experience unique to each of our customers needs.

Visit us Online for Specials Unique to

1.888.786.8741

BRASSO

NISSAN

Located in the Calgary Auto Mall

www.brassonissan.com

Loud and Proud in Taiwan

About 30,000 people participated in Taiwan's gay Pride Parade in late October in the country's capital city of Taipei. The marchers shouted slogans demanding more rights for LGBT citizens. This year's slogan "Out and Vote" indicates the queer community's dissatisfaction with current government policies for queer Taiwanese. The parade, which began with only 500 people in 2003, has grown in leaps and bounds and now attracts participants from not only the island but also from mainland China, Japan and South East Asian countries. The march concluded with an open air concert.

Finns Leave Church Because of Anti-Gay Remarks

Approximately 25,000 people have resigned from the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland, following remarks made during a televised discussion among church officials and politicians on gay rights. Päivi Räsänen, the leader of the Christian Democrats, and one of the panelists during the discussion, made strong statements of a fundamentalist nature against recognizing same-sex marriage and adoption, stating her remarks were based on Church teachings and her interpretation of Biblical scripture. Stefan Wallin, the minister for church affairs, blames Räsänen and her remarks for the rapid exodus of so many congregants from the church. Approximately 80 percent of Finns belong to the Evangelical Lutheran Church. Finland has civil unions but not marriage for same-sex couples, and gays may adopt only the biological children of their partners.

Transexual Activists Allegedly Targeted by Police

The International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC) claims that five trans-sexual activists were beaten by the police in May. It is further alleged that the police covered up their actions by charging the women with resisting arrest. Witnesses say that the women were forced from their car, forced to kneel, beaten with batons and sprayed with tear gas. Human rights groups from around the globe have condemned the action and written to the Turkish ministers of Justice and of the Interior asking for the release of the women, who are scheduled for trial in the fall. If convicted, they could face up to three years' imprisonment.

Motherly Love

A recent CNN article put the spotlight on the activism of Wu Youjian, a petite Chinese woman who is having a big impact on the lives of queer men and women in mainland China. When Wu's son came out to her several years ago, not only did she accept and support him, she became aware of the difficult situation that many of her son's contemporaries were living in and decided to do something about it. Mama Wu, as she is affectionately known in the gay community, founded China's first PFLAG, started a blog in which she encourages parents to accept their gay children and lectures and speaks to groups throughout the country.

Homosexuality is not against the law in China and it was removed from the list of mental disorders in 2001, still there is tremendous prejudice against same-sex relationships in a country. Many gay men and women are forced to live in the closet or enter into sham marriages. Homosexuality is tolerated as long as there is not too much publicity around the gay bars, night clubs etc. Many of these were raided ir shut down in advance of the Summer Olympics in Beijing, for example.

Mama Wu, however, seems determined to continue her fight for acceptance of LGBT persons even if it means facing official disapproval by the authorities.

Dedicated to the extraordinary. The exceptional. The unique.

It is not uncommon for the perfect buyers of a home to be in another country. It is uncommon for a real estate professional to have the resources to find them. I utilize a global network of listings and of highly qualified buyers, allowing me to more perfectly match extraordinary properties with the people who will take refuge within them.

Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY | Canada

Jeremy Eade 250.727.1415 | jeade@sothebysrealty.ca
Sotheby's International Realty Canada | 752 Douglas Street, Victoria, BC
250.380.3933 ext 317 | jeremyeade.com | sothebysrealty.ca

Independently Owned and Operated.

~ MICHAEL AIN

PFLAG Toronto

- A Case for Badly Needed Support

During the late 1970s and 1980s, parents of gays in the Toronto area met to support their gay children. A North Toronto Chapter of PFLAG began meeting in 1991, and those meetings continue today under the name of PFLAG Toronto.

Their mission: Support to cope with an adverse society, and education to enlighten an ill-informed public, end discrimination and secure equal human rights.

Their mandate: Keeping families together—providing opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation and creating a society that is healthy and respectful of all.

Photos: Irene Miller

Two decades later, PFLAG continues to assist teenagers, parents, and struggling or fragmented families, helping them to transition from places of ignorance and non-acceptance to environments of understanding and support.

Facilitating monthly support meetings, maintaining a library of LGBTQ information, and providing a 24/7 telephone helpline, PFLAG Toronto remains a leading resource for LGBTQ individuals in Toronto, similar to sister chapters across Canada.

OUTLOOKS Magazine met with Irene Miller (President, PFLAG Toronto) to discuss their organization's recent successes and upcoming challenges, along with how OUTLOOKS readers can play a crucial role in its continued success.

Why is PFLAG important?

For starters, PFLAG is there when nobody else is. We are frequently contacted by individuals feeling incredibly alone, at a point where they reach out to a stranger to say, "I am gay," or "My daughter is a lesbian." Often, these individuals can't think of a single relative, friend or colleague with whom they can talk. PFLAG volunteers listen, talk, and understand. We have shared many of the same questions, fears and scenarios with our own families. PFLAG volunteers are here to help.

Compared to 1991, why is PFLAG still relevant?

In 2010, PFLAG remains more relevant than ever. Not only are we facing similar issues to those we faced 20 years ago (homophobia,religious and cultural differences), but we see teens coming out younger; there is a dire need for increased trans-awareness; and we cannot ignore the recent focus in the media on bullying and teen suicide - all critical issues. PFLAG's visible presence is vital now.

Your son is openly gay, correct?

Yes. Raymond now resides in the US and lives his life "Out and Proud." We also have a straight daughter, and we are proud of both children equally. However, it was not because of our gay son that I went to my first PFLAG meeting. Raymond came out into a supportive environment. It was when Raymond's friend, Jared, was rejected by his family (for being gay), that he became an addition to our household. Together, Jared and I sought out PFLAG, trying to better understand why parents would reject their child for being gay and how we could help change that situation. I joined PFLAG Toronto as a volunteer, and my husband Gary and I continue as volunteers.

And you are now the newly appointed President of PFLAG Toronto?

This is correct. I stepped in as Acting-President just before Toronto Pride, and I was voted into the official position in July. PFLAG Toronto serves a large area and population, and it is a privilege to be part of the team of volunteers at PFLAG serving the Toronto community.

So, for OUTLOOKS readers feeling alone this holiday season, what would PFLAG say to them?

Simply that nobody should feel alone on the holidays, or at any time.

No matter what you celebrate, check to see if PFLAG is holding local events in your area. In Toronto, we are holding a local holiday event at Zelda'a Restaurant & Bar (692 Yonge Street, Upstairs) on Thursday December 16. Come be part of our PFLAG family. And if you are not near Toronto, contact us directly, and we will help you to connect with a PFLAG chapter closer to your area.

What can OUTLOOKS readers do to help, and what do they need to know about your case for support?

Firstly, PFLAG Toronto is entirely volunteer-driven with no paid employees. PFLAG Toronto has continued to exist because of donations in money and time by volunteers, and now, more than ever, additional financial support is critical. We are a registered charity and provide a charitable receipt for any donations over $20.

And how are these donations being used?

We rely on these donations to offer our basic services such as our 24-hour helpline, and monthly support meetings, to create our outreach efforts with schools, community organizations and community events. We encourage readers to reach out to us with questions or suggestions. And we truly appreciate OUTLOOKS giving us a chance to talk about this.

OUTLOOKS appreciates the love that PFLAG offers year after year. Thank you very much for your time Irene.

Thank you to OUTLOOKS. And if any OUTLOOKS reader needs a PFLAG hug this holiday, call us. Also, if you want support to try reconnecting with your own family this holiday season, perhaps PFLAG can help you to reopen that door, again. O

PFLAG Toronto plays a role in the education of individuals, families and the wider public on issues of diversity for all people, regardless of sexual orientation. Contact PFLAG Toronto via Facebook (@ PFLAG Toronto, ON), or via their weblink: www.pflagcanada.ca/chapters/Toronto/html
Or call their 24-hour Help Line: 1-416-406-6378

TO DONATE:

ONLINE DONATIONS can be made through the secure servers at CanadaHelps.org. CanadaHelps automatically issues a charitable donation receipt,

or

http://www.canadahelps.org/CharityProfilePage.aspx?CharityID=d70090

BY MAIL:

PFLAG Toronto
200 Wolverleigh Blvd.
Toronto, Ontario M4C 1S2

PFLAG TORONTO

COMING OUT WAS HARD ENOUGH...
GOING OUT SHOULDN'T BE!

GET MORE BANG
OUT OF YOUR BUCK
AND OUT OF YOUR NIGHTCLUB!

NO COVER*
DRINK SPECIALS**
KARAOKE NIGHTS
FREE DRAG SHOWS
FREE POOL TABLES
FREE VARIETY / CABARET SHOWS

twis-tad element
Nightclub & Cabaret Lounge

1006 - 11th AVE SW - Calgary AB - Tel 403 802 0230
www.twistedelement.ca - www.facebook.com/twistedelement
*excluding special performances / theme nights
**on selected nights

~ KEVIN ALDERSON, Ph.D., R. Psych.

Couch Talk –
The Musings of a Psychologist

Part 1: Update on Bisexual men

A classified ad posted in September 2010 reads, Header: *"Discreet 18 year old—m4m—18"*. Ad: *"I am an 18-year-old inexperienced guy with a girlfriend. I just wanna experiment a little bit and it has to be very discreet. Only reply with pictures, otherwise no response… I'm 6' 2", 7" uncut."*

As the above ad suggests, there are young people today who are curious, wondering what it would be like to get it on with a dude (YES!). I'm sure I'm not the only one who thinks that something juicy may cum out of a little exploration.

What does it mean when people say they are "bisexual"? On first glance, you might think they are referring to the fact that they enjoy having sex with both genders—a double-your-pleasure special if you will! They might well be referring to their sexual behaviour; but they might also be referring to their sexual identity label and/or their sexual orientation. Others may be referring to their ability to develop romantic feelings for both genders.

I am currently writing a textbook about counselling queer individuals. As the book has ten chapters, I decided to write a ten-part series highlighting the latest findings for each of the groups in the book. This month is about the latest research pertaining to bisexual men.

Bisexual individuals remind us of the term *queer*, in that such individuals embrace flexibility and fluidity in their sexuality and they prefer not to define themselves by a sexual identity label. While queer individuals refuse to buy into picking a label, those who define as bisexual have done so, and they also feel varying degrees of commitment to it. Many bisexual individuals do keep this identity label permanently.

Research suggests that, since puberty, about 9 percent of men have never had sex with another man. A recent study found that 12-19 percent of male college students across three regions of the US reported having same-sex feelings. Most of these men will never act on their feelings or assume a bisexual identity. Interestingly, the straight white guys who do have sex with other men report that it "bolsters their heterosexual masculinity": it does not detract from it.

Bisexuality is considered even more controversial than homosexuality. We are accustomed to placing people into binary categories: Either you are straight or you are gay/lesbian. However, even Sigmund Freud believed we were all, by nature, bisexual. Famous anthropologist Margaret Mead also believed most of us were capable of loving either sex. Kinsey and his colleagues agreed. But the credibility and validity of a bisexual identity continues to be questioned by researchers and experts in the field.

Because bisexual individuals can more readily "pass" as straight, due to their opposite-sex interests, they tend to be more invisible than gays and lesbians. They also experience worse mental health than gay and lesbian people—a finding consistent across many studies. This also means that they are more likely to feel suicidal compared to both gay/lesbian and to straight individuals.

It would have been easier to have engaged in bisexual behaviour prior to the 20th century. Before then, everyone was viewed as heterosexual. More accurately, who we had sex with did not define us. It was like saying, we are human beings; so given that, being human does not distinguish us from one another.

Many bisexual men have or are married to women, and unlike gay men, most are happy within their heterosexual marriages. They usually come out as bisexual later than gay men—usually in their early to mid twenties. Most do not have equal attraction to both genders, but instead prefer one over the other. An interesting finding for both bisexual men and women is that they generally prefer emotional relationships with women and sexual ones with men.

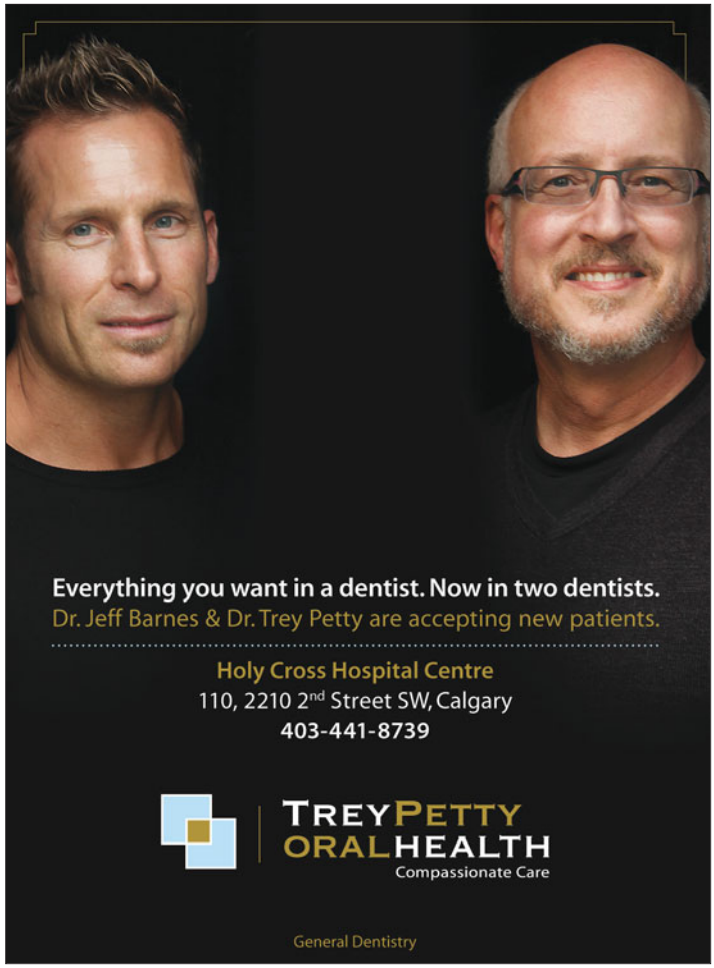
While the ideal for many bisexual men would be to have two partners of both genders simultaneously, only about 20 percent actually do. For some of the 20 percent, their arrangement is called polyamory. A polyamorous lifestyle is one where having more than one sexual or romantic partner is okay, so long as both agree to it. This is not the same as *infidelity*, which involves not getting or even asking for consent.

While it may seem that bisexual individuals have the best of both worlds, clearly they struggle with living in the great divide of being the middle guy in a world still divided largely into sheep and goats (i.e., homosexual, heterosexual). It is time we all appreciate that bisexuality is a consistent reality for many people today. O

Couch Talk references can be found at www.outlooks.ca

Kevin Alderson can be contacted by confidential email at **alderson@ucalgary.ca**, or by confidential voice mail at 403-605-5234.

ESSENTIAL
RENOVATIONS
Interior/Exterior | Kitchens/Bathrooms
Remodeling | Basement Development | Renovations
Contact us for a free consulation:
403.918.5353
www.essentialrenos.ca


Everything you want in a dentist. Now in two dentists.
Dr. Jeff Barnes & Dr. Trey Petty are accepting new patients.
Holy Cross Hospital Centre
110, 2210 2nd Street SW, Calgary
403-441-8739
TREY PETTY
ORAL HEALTH
Compassionate Care
General Dentistry

REJUVENATE REGENERATE RADIATE
All I want for Christmas.
Shiva offers a complete range of esthetics and the best in anti-aging technology, including UltraShape-fat reduction and body contouring.
Shiva
Shiva Medi-Spa & Esthetics
116, 330 5th Ave SW Calgary, AB 403.508.1820 shivamedispa.com
CHRISTMAS GIFT CERTIFICATES NOW AVAILABLE

Mistress Manners

Illustration: Perry Mah

Please contact Mistress Manners with your questions at:
mistressmanners@gmail.com

Dear Mistress Manners,

My girlfriend and I have been together for almost a year. Things got serious pretty fast and everything was great—so we moved in together after only four months. I know, I know...typical.

The first six months were great; but then a couple of months ago, I lost my job. My severance is running out soon and I've been looking for more work, but I can't find anything. My girlfriend is trying to be supportive; but our rent is pretty expensive and my not working is stressing us both out. When she comes home from work, she is tired and cranky and I try to have the house in order; but I feel all kinds of pressure, like she's supporting me. She isn't supporting me, though.

The worst part is that we agreed to go on a big vacation this winter—that was when I was employed. I don't know how to tell her that I can't afford to go. She'll probably want me to charge it; but I don't want to, since my work situation is insecure. Any advice?

~ Afraid of Being Dumped

Dear Afraid,

From the sound of it, you went through some pretty big life changes pretty quickly. Moving in together is a big step and, after less than a year together, it's hard to know how your partner will react to more challenges.

Losing a job is tough, and it involves going through all the stages of loss. It's normal to start out in denial and anger, then move into bargaining and depression, before you get anywhere near acceptance. Let's remember that jobs are often a big part of identity. People ask, "What do you do?" all the time when they really just want to know a little more about you. When your identity as well as your finances are in limbo, that's hard. When you have to tell your girlfriend you can't go on the trip you want to go on, that's hard, too. On top of that, Mistress needs to point out that you said overtly that your girlfriend is not supporting you. At first, I read that as financially but your signature reveals that you're afraid that she will leave you. That only increases your stress.

You are adjusting to a lot of change right now and you might not be getting your emotional needs met. It's hard to ask for support; however, if you don't ask for it, you probably won't get it. And, when you do ask your girlfriend for what you need, you're giving her a gift: You're telling her what is missing. You're alerting her to your needs. That's huge. It seems to Mistress that a conversation is in order.

As for the trip, it sounds like you already know what to do—or what not to do. Charging a vacation when you don't know how you'll be able to make payments is not a great idea. And, even though getting away mid-winter might relieve some stress in the short term, it'll add heaps of pressure to an already tough situation when you get your credit card bill. Just remember: Talking is free, just like a lot of other fun activities you and your girlfriend can engage in. O

NEW YEARS PARTY December 31 – No Cover

THE CALGARY EAGLE

Leather Levis Fetish Uniform Fantasy

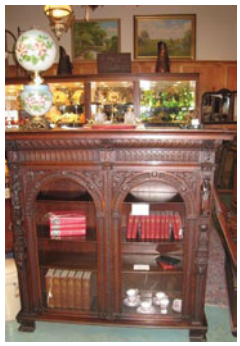
424a - 8th Avenue SE • Calgary AB T2G 0L7
(403) 263-5847 • www.calgaryeagle.com

Wanna Shop the World from Invermere, BC?

Only a short three-hour drive from Calgary—hidden in the ski resort community of Invermere, BC—are four sprawling rooms of warehouse space, filled with antiques from Scotland, Europe and Asia.

As you enter the 8,000 square foot building, your eyes can't decide whether to look up, down or sideways—as in every direction you look, there are beautifully crafted furniture pieces and accessories of the highest quality, suited to meet just about everyone's design budget.

The owners Elizabeth and Joe Klein have now been in business for just over seven years. Joe had retired about ten years prior and Elizabeth thought he was bored and should get back to work. So Joe followed his wife's advice and decided to open up a "wee" antique store. But it never has been "wee" from the get-go, and there have been a couple of additions over the years, to boot.



Together they now travel the globe looking for their unique pieces and special finds, and then ship them back by the container load a number of times a year.

When people are adding antique pieces to their interior design plans, many of the pieces are not used for what was their original purpose—sideboards are used for bathroom vanities to give the room a bit of character, and bookcases are replacing cabinets for towel storage, etc. The trick is not to be afraid to change the use of a great piece. So, be creative and think outside the antique box. But with that said, if you are spending a very large amount of money on a piece, then, to keep its value, one should never alter or adapt it for a new use. Any alteration that changes its original character or construction will significantly decrease its resale value. However, if you are spending no more than you would for a similar-use piece at a furniture store, then adapt it so that it can be used and enjoyed today

Te Papa Nui Antiques is a destination shop which is well worth the effort to visit. So, take a one-night vacation—check out Invermere, and be prepared to shop, shop, shop...

Te Papa Nui Antiques
Invermere, BC
www.tepapanui.com
250-342-0707

Something REALLY different to do...finally...

- the ANTIQUING-
WEEKEND GETAWAY

The Unique Christmas Shopping Destination

ENJOY beautiful INVERMERE located in the Columbia Valley (only 3 hours away from Calgary)

Tell us where you saw this ad and receive **10%** off your purchases!
Ask about our special layaway programs and delivery to your home!

TE PAPA NUI
ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

FULL of antiques from around the world:

- Belguim
- Scotland
- France
- England
- Egypt
- China

...and so much more!

From old iron gates (to use as your new headboard perhaps) to magnificent hand carved sideboards, paintings, mirrors, chandelliers, garden statues of stone, etc.

Spruce Up Your Home with Something Really Unique!

Call **250-342-0707**
for the latest items from around the world
THINGS YOU JUST CANNOT BUY AT JUST ANY STORE!
or visit our website:

www.tepapanui.com

Not That Kind of Girl

~ METTE BACH

HIBERNATION READY

Settling into winter is like looking at yourself naked in a full-length mirror, especially if you live alone. This is the time of year when I start to spend an awful lot of time with myself. The hesitation to be outside sets in once my eyes and nose start watering in the cold. I find myself making excuses to not see friends because I'd rather take a hot bath and watch a DVD. This time, inevitably, depresses me just a little—the grey skies, the dark mornings and the early onslaught of Christmas jingles and glittery home décor.

Of course, it's not really the externals that depress me. It's me. I find that, at this time of year, I do the mental equivalent of putting on my flannel pajamas and Snuggie: I stop caring what my toenails look like, I give up on waxing and I opt for whipped cream at every opportunity.

Fall is like a special buffer time for all women and gay men—it's directly opposite bikini season. Sure, most lesbians don't really care about bikini season; but even still, there's something kind of sacred about bikini season's exact inverse. All around, people are packing on extra layers and hiding under hats and umbrellas. The wacky patterns, floral prints and bold stripes get shoved into the backs of closets everywhere, and out come the browns and blacks and deep purples.

It seems like everyone goes through an adjustment period of self-reflection in the early winter. My guess is that it has to do with saying goodbye to patios and possible sightings of friends around town—everyone has his head down, so who would you see? While I've been a little bit frustrated with myself for leaving the sink full of dishes and the laundry undone, I've come to see this as the only natural outcome of spending so much time alone: I have days where I'm really charming and, therefore, in love with myself. And I have days where I can't handle being around myself—which is particularly challenging.

My neighbour, Tony, came over to tell me about his Saturday night out. This is how I give myself the semblance that I have a life—I live vicariously. He's going out for two, since I'm only interested in hearing about what happens at bars—not actually going to them. Plus, he's made goals to be more social this year—a bonus for both of us.

Last year, we watched the entire DVD set of Ken Burns's Civil War documentary while eating mini cheesecakes and quiches. In case you don't know the reference, that's a lot of civil war footage—we're talking hours and hours. It only makes sense that this year, he would opt for new opportunities.

"So how was it?" I asked.

"Exhausting," he said. "I just don't know where people get their energy from. I'm ready to go to bed at ten. These people are barely dressed by then."

"I hear you, sister."

I made hot chocolate for us and we sat around my coffee table, like little old ladies, dunking our biscuits into our drinks for easier consumption.

"So why are you doing it?" I finally asked him.

"Well, ideally, I'd like to meet someone I like, someone who's a bit of a shut-in like I am."

"And you think you'll be able to accomplish this by going out?" I laughed.

"Honey, the irony is not lost on me, believe me."

We sat there, munching and sipping, nodding to nothing in particular.

"At some point, shut-ins have to go out, right? I mean, even if only to meet other shut-ins."

"I guess so," I said, skeptical but willing to let Tony believe whatever he wanted.

We talked a bit about feeling old. I argued that it's pretty normal to not want to go to stuff once you start specifically buying probiotic yogurt instead of regular yogurt. Once you start caring more about RRSPs than trendy accessories, it's okay to stop going to stuff.

I'm in a lucky position of not wanting to meet anyone. In fact, after thoughtful consideration, I decided to take love, relationships and sex off my "to do" list for the next twenty to thirty years. That makes it very easy for me to stay home. I mean, if not to look cute and look at others looking cute, what purpose do bars serve?

"Don't you think it's kind of crazy to feel pressure to go out? I mean, isn't it kind of like high school?"

"I didn't go to bars in high school."

"Well it's the whole enterprise of trying to find compatible people—the whole attempt to belong. I wonder if it's a gay thing. I mean, do you know any straight people who, at our age, feel pressure to go to bars?"

I started thinking of all of my straight friends and everyone who came to mind happened to be seriously committed, with children and on severe budgets due to interest rates and over-inflated real estate. Not only do they not go to bars, they barely even leave the house. They don't buy new clothes or eat at restaurants. In fact, their lives are an awful lot like mine. I found myself wondering whether my cat and student loans count as dependents.

"Straight people can meet other straight people anywhere," Tony said, "We only have special nights where we can do that."

Suddenly—back in the conversation about gay bars and why we don't like them but how they're a necessary evil—it all seemed clear.

"Hey," I interrupted Tony, "We have to get another project this winter. How about we do another Ken Burns series?"

"Funny that you should mention it," Tony said, "I've been thinking about how I haven't seen *Roots* yet."

"*Roots*! Perfect."

And so begins another winter. O

How Parliament Failed **CAMR**

For the past few years, attempts have been made to reform Canada's Access to Medicines Regime (CAMR) laws by way of private member's bills. CAMR, brought into law in 2004, allows generic drug companies to obtain compulsory licences to make cheap AIDS drugs for the developing world. It was a cumbersome process that proved too frustrating for those companies to access with any real success.

Protesters outside Liberal MP Marc Garneau's office.

In the current Parliament, we've seen two bills so far try to reform it—S-232, which was in the Senate in 2009 and died when Stephen Harper prorogued Parliament—and C-393, which may yet live or die (as of press time, a gutted version is before the House of Commons). Both bills were aimed to streamline the approvals process, and to make it easier for the generic drug companies to get the necessary authorizations they needed to make those drugs for export.

As the only journalist who has followed the progress of both bills the entire way through, I can say that the failure to reform CAMR in a substantial way lies to great extent with Parliament itself, as opposed to any one party. And while it has been well-known throughout the process that the Harper government was hostile to the reforms, really none of the other parties did themselves any favours throughout.

The first bill, S-232, saw thoughtful testimony brought before the Senate Banking, Trade and Commerce committee (being as the bill deals with technical amendments to the Patent Act), spread out over several weeks, and the senators on that committee asked thoughtful questions. They heard from every conceivable expert witness, and were ready to pass it at committee stage when Harper prorogued Parliament, and the bill died on the Order Paper.

But when C-393's turn came up, some significant things happened. Number one was that the bill's sponsor, Judy Wasylycia-Leis, resigned her seat to run as mayor of Winnipeg. This put a wrench in the works in that it would require a unanimous vote in the House for the NDP's industry critic, Brian Masse, to take it over, thus providing an opportunity for it to be killed on the spot.

Not only that, but as the bill headed into Industry Committee, it became clear that they had little interest in bothering with everything that had been said at the Senate. Masse told me in an interview that he felt that relying on the Senate testimony would somehow be abdicating his responsibility as an elected official, because the Senate is an appointed body—an absurd position if there ever was one.

When Apotex, the only generic drug manufacturer to have used CAMR, was unable to make it to the Commons committee, Liberal Marc Garneau—who succeeded in gutting the most important parts of C-393 later in committee—accuses Apotex of not bothering to appear before a Parliamentary committee. Never mind that Apotex had appeared before a Parliamentary committee already—in the Senate—and that their testimony was on the record.

Because of the time constraints on private member's bills at Commons committees, they started cramming as many witnesses into a few hearings, at one point running a four-and-a-half hour marathon session, the final third overcrowded with seven disparate witnesses before, four of those by video conference from Seattle, Geneva, Swansea and Cape Town.

Not only that, but some of the choices in witnesses were a distraction. As much as members of the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign do very good work, and have an important message about the need for drugs in Africa, their inclusion as witnesses on a piece of technical legislation regarding amendments to the Patent Act meant that the debate often got sidelined from the topic at hand, to questions about the effectiveness of our foreign aid to places like Africa.

GtoG was called to testify on the legislation. Huh!?

If the committee had intended to take the bill seriously—and this applies to all parties equally—and with the knowledge that there was a question of a limited amount of time for witnesses, then they should have gotten together, read over the Senate testimony, and compiled a list of witnesses that they needed to ask additional questions of - not restart the process over again. If they were serious, they would have focused on the technical aspects, such as our World Trade Organization obligations and not about the larger issue of aid to the developing world.

The committee system should work in Parliament; but while partisanship normally takes over, in this case, it went beyond that into a kind of arrogance by the MPs—that the groundwork laid by the Senate was somehow beneath their time and attention. This contempt for Parliament as a whole failed the CAMR, and the cause of getting cheap medications to the developing world. O

Liberal Marc Garneau succeeded in gutting the most important parts of C-393

~ DAVID KING

Canadian Trailblazers

How Mado Stole Christmas

Irreverent, larger-than-life, and always the perfect holiday bitch, Mado Lamotte built that "Mado Factory" called Cabaret Club Mado in Montréal's gay village after the rise and fall of the popular drag bar l'Entre-Peau (literally, 'between skin'). Connecting with other drag performers and impersonators once scattered across the village in sporadic performances, the business-savvy diva assembled them under one roof for performances that have been going strong ever since, while creating a venue that's been accessible to the community itself for private rentals and fundraisers.

Photo: Union Creative

More of a clown than a drag artiste, Lamotte built her career on kitsch (or as they say in Québec, 'quétaine') performances as the Village Bingo Lady, quipping out the funniest bilingual translations that Montréalers and tourists could imagine. More couture these days than kitsch (she works closely with designer Daniel Serruirer), her evolution has included successful commercial stints MC-ing shows at the Casino de Montréal, the Olympia, and her annual, always anticipated presence at Divers/Cité's Mascara: La nuit de drag. Having thrown her famous mug on everything from annual Priape calendars to Yum Yum Potato Chip commercials, she's successfully amalgamated drag with Mardi Gras-style performance art, breaking down barriers for drag artists in Québec, and mainstreaming them for years to come.

Just don't ask her about Christmas.

"Mado parties then takes a break and parties again," says Lamotte. "She's a mean bitch who hates Christmas and is anything but religious. She doesn't like Christmas trees or cute things, except Hello Kitty."

Recently returning from a sold-out show in Paris, the Dalida and Kylie-loving Lamotte has been so popular abroad, she's already done eight annual performances at Paris's popular Bar Cabaret Le Tango. Although she usually makes an effort to do Paris in Spring (but of course), her most recent Fall show Mado Bitch Le France made for a unique visit—a retrospective of what she calls her "many trips to France, their culture, their country, and their complex of superiority."

While Dalida and Piaf might send shivers up Lamotte's spine, it's artists like Celine Dion and that "washed up aerobics dancer" named Madonna that leave a bad taste in her mouth.

"If I'm as old as Madge," says Lamotte, "I want to be a granny in Chanel and Louis Vuitton. And don't tell me you can't afford it, Madonna - get rid of the sweatpants. Who are you kidding? You're a millionaire, so wear it."

While local drag celebs like Nana, Michel Dorion, Nicole and Shirley continue entertaining us as "Les amies de Mado," Montrealers who know Cabaret Club Mado's "door diva" Madame Simone were shocked to learn about Simone's retirement this past November. More performance artist than stage entertainer, Simone hails back to the late 1980s and early 1990s, when Montrealers could hear her famous "coo" from either a mile away or right beside them on the dance floor of Bar Lézard, where Simone mingled with them as the club's retro-style cigarette girl.

Known for her unusual headgear (the chicken and the globe are probably still my favourites), Madame Simone eventually became a part of the Cabaret Club Mado family at the front door, and having been somewhat of a Village mascot for years, her absence in the village will be sadly mourned.

"To me Madame Simone was like a Madame of a Bordello," reflects Lamotte, "who really safeguarded things. I would run it, but she was really the Madame of the place."

Simone built her performance art entirely on image and sound, but as Lamotte adds, it takes a helluva socialite to endure long winters sitting outside on rue Ste-Catherine and chatting up the villagers.

"He was queen of the streets," says Lamotte, "and the feedback I always got was how unique he was as not only door person but entertainer. He started like a wild child, screaming and performing, but never mixing too much with people. People would ask me, 'Who's that freak?' and I'd say, 'He's an entertainer.' Yet he was even more social than I am in ways, because he was so close to the people."

As Simone moves on to focus on his décor skills, it's like the end of an era. Fortunately, says Lamotte, Simone picked the perfect time to make an exit.

"If you think about it," reflects Lamotte, Madame Simone's performance art is like seeing a timeless character that could have just as easily appeared in the 1920s. She never needed to evolve like other entertainers, and so it was always about reinventing herself in the same way. Better to go while still on top than to become that "Madame, you're over" girl.

As Mado scrooges on Madge and Christmas, I'm still able to squeeze some holiday gift recommendations out of her, on a list that surprisingly does not include hunky Québec swim champion Alexandre Despatie.

"No way!" declares the drag diva, "Mado likes hairy men with big hands. Not bears or macho macho, but clean, intelligent men with class, that don't smell. And not too intelligent either—I don't want to have sex with a brain."

Check out Mado at **mado.qc.ca** for more info on Lamotte, her club and her many blogs. **O**

Mado Lamotte's Top 5 Holiday Gifts...for her that is

1. Anything Hello Kitty (especially the Smart Car)
2. A pair of tickets to see Kylie in London
3. Jake Gyllenhaal, wrapped in chocolate-coated "fleur de sel" caramel
4. Pierre Hardy shoes
5. A lifetime subscription to the Montréal saunas

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

Thoughts from the Hill

~ DALE SMITH

Parliamentary committees have been hearing about what happened during the G8 and G20 protests in Toronto this past summer. And questions have been raised as to security costs and the way in which the police acted in relation to the protesters, with "preventative arrests," and other police abuses. This has caused a great deal of uproar in activist communities.

This month's question: Do you think we are moving down the path of criminalizing dissent in Canada?

NDP MP Bill Siksay (Burnaby-Douglas, BC): Sky-high security costs for high-level meetings of world leaders are a huge concern. I doubt that there are very few Canadians who feel that we got value for our tax dollars for the G8-G20 meetings in Toronto. While there may be good reason for world leaders to meet, there must be ways to control the costs of such meetings, while respecting democracy. What mandate do leaders have for decisions taken at such meetings? How are they held accountable for the decisions made there?

And when leaders meet, citizens must have the ability to make our views known, and must be treated with respect when we peacefully demonstrate. It seems that, every few years, our governments have to be reminded about the right of citizens to peacefully demonstrate and to hold political opinions that differ from those of the government of the day. The civil liberties and democratic rights of Canadians have often been challenged-mass arrests of queer bathhouse patrons, attempts to stifle trade union organizational efforts, the use of the War Measures Act in 1970, actions against APEC demonstrator at UBC a few years ago, or the bizarre notion of Olympic "free speech zones" earlier this year at the Vancouver games.

We must always be ready to defend our free political expression from attempts to criminalize dissent, and there must be a full public inquiry into police actions at the G8-G20 meetings this past summer.

Liberal MP Scott Brison (Kings-Hants, Nova Scotia): The Harper government clearly has a zero tolerance policy towards any level of dissent, even civilized, respectful disagreement. There has been no government in the history of Canada as intolerant of views that differ from its own as the Harper government.

There's clearly concern that, at the G20, excessive force may have been used, and that civil liberties were trampled on. It is a difficult line sometimes for governments, because it is critically important, when you're hosting an international conference, to protect the security of the participants; but it's also important as a priority to respect the civil liberties of your citizens. This government puts all the emphasis on the former, and none on the latter, and does not see it as a priority to defend civil liberties of citizens.

In terms of the outrageous costs of $1.3 billion for the G20, emanating from bad management, incompetent decision-making, and the decision, at the last minute, to put the summit in a location that doesn't make sense. There are other places in the Greater Toronto Area where a summit could have been held for significantly less cost, and this was unacceptable.

Conservative Senator Nancy Ruth (Ontario - Cluny): The costs to the G-meetings are enormous, but legitimate. The question is, "does Canada want to play in the big time," and therefore assume these costs?

I am sure that all citizens were saddened by the police actions to protestors. It is unconscionable that police remove their identities, making citizen charges difficult in their accuracy. But my answer is a cautionary one. The State does have these powers of arrest. Remember in the early 1970s, Trudeau enacted the War Measures Act where all sorts of people were rounded up overnight, some of them just for being on a magazine subscription list.

I do not think we are moving towards criminalizing dissent in Canada; but we need to remember that the State has these powers. If you want to change the State's powers, please get involved in a political party and run yourself. O

February 2011 OUTLOOKS Available Exclusively by Subscription and Retail Outlets

For memories to last a life time, the elegant Burlington Convention Centre is the place to be! Romance drifts through the air as you enter the grand foyer to the music of the grand piano. Elegant European décor and soaring ceilings, with shimmering chandeliers, Wisteria Gazebo and beautiful landscaping, all make for unforgettable photographs. Dine on an exquisite feast, prepared by our executive chef and served French-style, with an elegance that only the most professional waiter can achieve. Then twirl the night away on a mosaic marble floor. The BCC is luxury at it's finest.

Lifetime of Memories

BURLINGTON CONVENTION CENTRE

Mr. Yanko Bosch
Wedding Coordinator
1120 Burloak Drive, Burlington, ON Canada L7L 6P8
Cell: 289-440-3956 Facsimile: 905-319-3989
E-mail: osri71@hotmail.com

CONTEMPORARY STYLE

Mississauga, ON
3050 Vega Blvd Unit 9
905 820 0006

interiors
Furniture Galleries

The Village at Vaughan Mills
255 Bass Pro Mills Dr.
905 660 0093

Meet Your Perfect Match

CANADA'S LEADING PROFESSIONAL GAY DATING SERVICE

Call today to receive a free added introduction

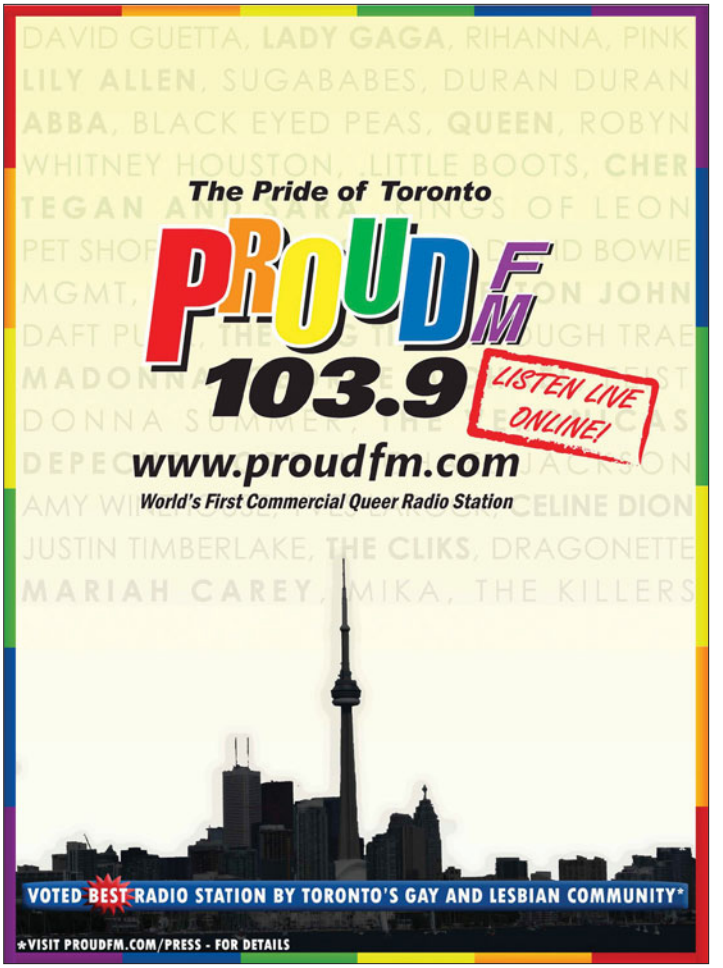
1-866-467-5252

preferred PARTNERS

www.preferredpartners.ca

GET EVENT TIX NOW
OUTLOOKS
A proud media sponsor of
Winter PRIDE
Jan. 30 - Feb. 6, 2011
WHISTLER, BC
5 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION + 3 DAY LIFT TICKET
VALID DATES JAN. 28 – FEB. 8, 2011
starting from $127* per person per night
BOOK BY JANUARY 15, 2011
gaywhistler.com
Toll free 1.866.787.1966 gaywhistler
*Starting from package rate is per person per night, based on 2 adults sharing a Deluxe Hotel Room from January 28 – February 8, 2011. Package includes 5 nights accommodation and a 3 Day Lift Ticket per person. Full package price is $637 per person, calculated as an average rate of $127 per person per night for 5 nights. All rates in CAD funds. Rates are exclusive of taxes, fees, and are subject to availability at the time of booking and may change without notice. Minimum night stays, blackout dates and other restrictions may apply. Additional packages available, please inquire for details.
Travel Gay Canada
IGLTA
here!
TAG
InterPride
CANADIAN
AIR NEW ZEALAND
Hilton
travelocity
WHISTLER
WHISTLER BLACKCOMB

Who's coming OUT of your stocking?
RuPaul's Drag Race Season 3
Starting in January
New Alan Carr "Chatty Man"
Starting in December
New Seasons of
Dante's Cove
The Lair
Shaun Proulx
Men's Fashion Insider
and much more!
only on
OUT tv
Go to www.outtv.ca for listings.


DAVID GUETTA, LADY GAGA, RIHANNA, PINK
LILY ALLEN, SUGABABES, DURAN DURAN
ABBA, BLACK EYED PEAS, QUEEN, ROBYN
WHITNEY HOUSTON, LITTLE BOOTS, CHER
The Pride of Toronto
PROUD FM
103.9
LISTEN LIVE ONLINE!
www.proudfm.com
World's First Commercial Queer Radio Station
CELINE DION
JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE, THE CLIKS, DRAGONETTE
MARIAH CAREY, MIKA, THE KILLERS
VOTED BEST RADIO STATION BY TORONTO'S GAY AND LESBIAN COMMUNITY*
*VISIT PROUDFM.COM/PRESS - FOR DETAILS

A Hand to Freedom

Gay Refugees Seeking Asylum in Canada - Here's How to Help Them

We've often wondered how we can help international LGBTQ individuals to simply survive. In our first of a three-part series on LGBTI refugees and asylum-seekers, three pioneering experts are going to show us how to do it.

Can saving a life be easier than we think?

It's one in a multitude of questions being posed by some leading activists and academics fielding LGBTI refugee claims around the world. In Canada, says University of Ottawa law professor Nicole LaViolette, it's also the opener to that giant can of worms called "resettlement claims."

"Our resettlement programs are very modest," observes LaViolette, who is new to the process after fifteen years of specializing in inland refugees. "There are 800,000 to a million refugees in the world, and Canada takes in about 12,000 or so per year as a target. In some cases, we're talking about people who have been in camps for twenty years and are having children and even grandchildren there, with no opportunity for a real life. Resettlement programs are a drop in a huge bucket, and, while what Canada is doing now has only a small impact, it is nonetheless important."

With no statistical support on claims based on sexual orientation, queers facing the most severe persecution around the world remain invisible within Canadian facts and figures on resettlement. Often using underground channels and word of mouth, North American efforts by both individuals and non-profit organizations are under way, and they're more than grateful for the Internet as one of their biggest tools for outreach.

"The Internet has been amazing that way," comments LaViolette. "LGBTI refugees are reaching out directly for support. I've already talked to people who have made contact—we just need a way to get them out."

It's easier said than done. Or is it? The international sound bytes you're reading about in queer media on individuals facing imminent death in places like East Africa, Iran and Iraq can often only expose them more, while our Canadian mainstream media has matched our Canuck silence on LGBTI claims in general. It's something activists and academics like LaViolette hope to see change, and fast. Publishing a call to arms for the gay community this past summer in the Globe and Mail, LaViolette has been working hard to bring LGBTI resettlement to the public eye, and in her view, it just takes word of mouth within our queer communities to get the ball rolling.

"We're likely talking about a two-year process and a financial commitment of just over $10, 000 to privately sponsor a refugee to come to Canada"

"We're likely talking about a two-year process and a financial commitment of just over $10, 000 to privately sponsor a refugee to come to Canada," LaViolette notes, "along with organized efforts to ensure the refugee's well-being, employment and housing. Maybe I'm wrong; but I believe that we can convince wealthier members of the queer community to donate the money required for private sponsorship. We are more affluent than we think, and it just doesn't make sense that we have the legal security and affluence, while there are people being killed based on sexual orientation."

Recently, LaViolette attended a round table in Geneva on LGBTI-related asylum-seekers and refugees at the United Nations High Commission (UNHCR), a main contact organization for LGBTQ individuals seeking protection. In the company of state representatives, academics, and experts on both inland and resettlement claims, the UNHCR made a commitment to push forward on improvements to the LGBTI refugee claim process. Truly a first for UNHCR policy makers, it offers a glimmer of hope in sensitizing everyone behind the scenes on claims based on both sexual orientation and gender identity.

On the phone from Istanbul, Rachel Levitan is a Canadian law grad that's been providing legal services to refugees in Tehran for eight years. Levitan, who works with the San Francisco-based Organization for Refugees, Asylum and Migration (ORAM), assured ORAM attended one of the same UNHCR sessions this summer as LaViolette did, and according to her, there's a big difference between "sexual orientation" and "gender identity" in her region, along with fundamental differences in the issues facing transgendered individuals when compared with lesbians or gay men.

"In Iran," Levitan demonstrates, "there's pressure for men to make a gender transition if they are gay, when it's their orientation

that's the real issue. You're dealing with a social construct that is essentially straight, and makes no sense. Essentially, they're getting a message that says 'if you're a man attracted to another man, be a woman, and we'll help you do it.'"

As Levitan adds, proving one's sexual orientation or gender identity in an LGBTI refugee claim often goes beyond the invasive, ranging from questions about all the subject's sexual experiences to the Czech Republic's use of scientific tests in sexual response. The treatment of queer refugee claims by governments and international agencies, assures Levitan, is as much on today's repair list as the expansion of services and programs to individual LGBTI refugees.

Working on the ground from Istanbul, Levitan mentions recent efforts to survey decision members on any differences in claims based on sexual orientation and gender identity, and has joined forces with ORAM and the Helsinki Citizens' Assembly to assure that those arriving in Turkey (mainly Iranian) have a safe haven. Yet, as both Levitan and LaViolette concur, some LGBTQ asylum-seekers facing refugee camp relocation once again face the same kind of persecution they received in their country of origin.

"For the marginalized," says Levitan, "it's retraumatizing, and it may prevent someone from claiming on LGBTI matters. There's also an exponential marginality, I like to call it, where gay identity is not the only issue. As a young man from Turkey, you are marginalized; but in Iran, you're also dealing with xenophobia, economic resentment, homophobia, trans-phobia, and all-out targeting."

"We need to make sure that the individual is secure enough to talk about the real reason behind his or her claim," adds LaViolette. "The UNHCR have now shown their willingness to have a look at their internal documentation and inform more people in their field on these matters. They may need to also realize that they have a small number of people who can't even be sent to camps."

Toronto's George Ssemukuutu, highly active in lobbying support for queer Ugandans, is not afforded the same luxury as Levitan in providing on-the-ground services in Uganda, due to the sheer stigma and danger faced by both individuals and agencies in Uganda in the past. Like Levitan, Ssemukuutu is most often contacted by desperate asylum-seekers online and via word of mouth. Once a refugee himself, he's determined to make changes within the Canadian system and, first approached by one individual abroad, became passionate about the plight of LGBTQ Ugandans when that number quickly increased to the 200 he's in contact with today.

"Canadian sources are so limited on LGBTQ Africans," says Ssemukuutu, "so Finnish, American and European studies of Iranian refugees actually had to be drawn upon for me to concretize my arguments before Canadian officials. After all, how can we collect statistics of underground activity anyway, of a black market, so to speak?"

Ssemukuutu kick-started the social group Pride Uganda Toronto in 2005 to address African concerns and LGBTQ refugees whose needs were not being addressed. As he describes it, he's been facing an entirely different set of challenges than the legal advocacy of LaViolette and Levitan. They include a recent expansion of his 80-or-so member group to those involved from interested Africans, East Europeans and Afro-Caribbean members. The more all-encompassing name Pride Uganda Alliance International (PUAI) is now applied to the group, which meets regularly at Toronto's 519 Community Centre. "People often have their own agendas on this subject," notes Ssemukuutu, "their own manifestos perhaps - their own reasons why they are working differently. It has not been easy."

Without charitable status, PUAI is clearly limited in its capacity to raise funds for asylum-seekers, and as Ssemukuutu adds, communicating with Amnesty International has been akin to banging his head on the same brick wall he's faced by our government.

"Amnesty International feels they cannot ask the government for my requests," Ssemukuutu explains. "A lot of it has to do with the limitations of their support available, but it also has to do with the limitations of their mandate. To quote a letter I recently received from Amnesty they state, 'We take no position re: the discontinuation of aid or investment; and while we agree refugees need protection we rarely ever ask any government to facilitate travel to those who are at risk; only that they receive protection in countries of asylum and are not prevented from seeking asylum.'"

LaViolette—who recently participated in a meeting by the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Caucus (SOGIC) of the Ontario Bar Association to discuss refugee issues—is relying on Canada's most recent show of support for LGBTQ refugees by Immigration Minister Jason Kenney. Busy organizing an Ottawa-based group for a pilot project that will serve to test Canada's resettlement system in relation to LGBTQ claimants, it's not difficult for LaViolette to provide examples of immediate asylum-seekers who can benefit from her efforts, including a woman recently attacked in Uganda for simply working with sexual minorities and sex workers. To Ssemukuutu, however, a small group from our communities assisting one individual in need may not be as much a solution as organizing a mass Canadian effort that will assist all 200 of his endangered contacts.

"I'm not doing this to save activists because their safety is quite secured," says Ssemukuutu. "I am doing this for the voiceless, and I was one of them; so I know what that means. It's not that I'm condemning what other organizations are trying to accomplish to speak for activists; but I really need to talk for the ones who simply are not visible, because they are unknown and thus persecuted daily."

Weighing in on a solution, Levitan admits that she's unsure whether a mass-scale effort or more regional Canadian efforts by individuals and groups would be more successful in saving lives. What she can conclude, as can LaViolette and Ssemukuutu, is that resettlement is currently the fastest track avenue that's available to LGBTQ refugees, and that a group of individuals, even five or more friends, will create a far greater impact on bringing LGBTQ individuals to Canada.

As Ssemukuutu adds, "You can look at my argument this way: The challenges of ensuring group resettlement and the right to refugee status are not new. The most recent debate has focused on the role of the Balanced Refugee Reform Act and engaged Canadians. The private sponsorship being advocated by the government through the Act, I realize, would not work for our group resettlement except for an individual, and groups of five or ten. I was challenged to do something; whereas PUAI is without financial means. Group resettlement is the best alternative, as it has provisions for government-assisted refugee sponsorship."

"It's important to look within the community that you want to serve," says Levitan. "I say, use the resources that are there, and, in fact, may not be that costly after all. Make yourself personally available, create a structure, and encourage structures to exist. For example, Canada has welcome houses, so why not a Rainbow Welcome House? It's tangible for us, and it improves access to services by the queer community."

LaViolette agrees. "We certainly know that Canada is pretty quick to respond to LGBTQ claims in some countries where we're talking about threats to lives. We also know that there are groups already dealing with resettlement that we can work with. Now, I'd like to start seeing the gay and lesbian community use their own social services and develop their own ability to do something.

"We also need to look at the problems with our Balanced Refugee Reform Act," Ssemukuutu proposes, "and the logistics associated with getting those individuals out of countries immediately, or from countries of first asylum. Our government has the money and the resources for big group resettlements, so why save just one person or five? Just look at PUAI efforts, for example, for job creation in Canada if members were paid to do such outreach. It's an academic argument; but if you can persuade the government to tie foreign aid to human rights, and include the mention of GLBT issues, it could make an enormous impact to improve lives of GLBT abroad."

Hoping to one day return to Uganda himself and work on-the-ground with a team, Ssemukuutu is fully aware that "on-the-ground" also means "underground." Although he doesn't believe Ugandan queers will find protection in his lifetime, he's hopeful that a younger generation will see it with enough effort.

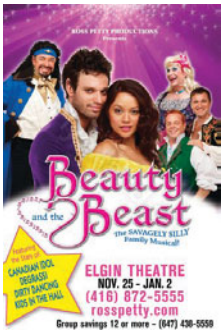
"In Uganda, you either seek help or commit suicide," says Ssemukuutu. "They are

cornered, put in a little box, a cell, not knowing who to talk to. In my case, it helped that I have an education, that I could do an Internet search. It helped that my lawyer was gay versed, and that I felt I could relate to him and confide in him. It helped that I could reach out in the hopes that someone could respond. But most often, no one does." O

- For details on ORAM, visit **oraminternational.org**
- To find out more about the recent SOGIC conference, visit **cba.org/CBA/sogic/main/**
- For United Nations Refugee Agency news, visit **unhcr.org**
- To get involved in the Ottawa pilot project, contact Nicole LaViolette at **Nicole.LaViolette@uottawa.ca**
- For info on the Vancouver-based Rainbow Refugee Committee, email **info@rainbowrefugee.com**
- To contact PUAI, or offer help in the Toronto region visit **http://pua-int.org**

TORONTO: Fabulous Fun All Winter Long

When planning your vacation to beautiful, cosmopolitan Toronto, simply "clip-n-save" this article as a blueprint for the seasonal smorgasbord of entertainment highlights from which you'll have to choose!



A dress is a dress is a dress...Already up and running is "Beauty and the Beast, The Savagely Silly Family Musical" starring zany Scott Thompson as the Dame. And talk about perfect casting, since Scott's numerous "Kids in the Hall" drag roles are so hysterically memorable. I mean, once you've played a Queen (Elizabeth II), it must be a cinch to play a Dame! To catch this contagiously funny holiday romp, make your way over to the Elgin Theatre before it closes, January 2.

Tutu magical...The holidays just wouldn't be the same without the National Ballet of Canada performing the evergreen classic, "The Nut-cracker." This perfect gem of a ballet seamlessly blends impeccable dancing, extraordinary choreography, dazzling stagecraft and ravishing design into an alluring spectacle that effortlessly captures the imagination of both child and adult alike. As timeless as your family's cherished heirlooms, it will run from December 11 to January 2 at the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts.

And in the New Year...

Hilarity and horror...Buddies in Bad Times Theatre is thrilled to bits to welcome back to their stage celebrated playwright Sonja Mills, nearly fifteen years after the overwhelming success of "Dyke City." Mills heralds her auspicious return with, "The Bird," a contemporary lesbian drawing room farce, wherein strangers and family mix at a cocktail party that turns into a brittle examination of marriage, infidelity, jealousy, the fall of capitalism and taxidermy! "The Bird" runs from January 8 to 30.

Surprising your Valentine...Be sure to attend the "Toronto Erotic Arts and Crafts Fair" on February 12 at the Gladstone Hotel. This sexy event features an awesome array of erotic products crafted by uniquely talented artists. Worth special mentions are: tactile books for the visually impaired; fetish jewelry; fun-fur restraints that promise unparalleled comfort and fit; stylishly sustainable hardwood dildos that are non-toxic/ non-porous; kinky bondage gear; anatomically correct sock monkeys featuring magnetic genitalia so that you can build your very own sock monkey orgy; and organically sourced lubricants containing Horny Goat Weed—who knew?

High-kicking and high-schticking...For three nights only, February 10-12, "Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo" will make a triumphant return to the historic Winter Garden Theatre. This critically acclaimed, award-winning, all-male dance troupe has amazed international audiences with their flawless executions of classic ballet in parody form. And their newly enhanced repertoires continue to blend high art with physical virtuosity and outrageous camp. Trust me, the exaggerated foibles of these guys/gals are priceless indeed! And, since missing them would be a crime, don't even think about it.

Some enchanted evening...To the delight of local theatre queens, the unforgettable Tony Award-winning New York production of "South Pacific" is returning to Toronto. The first time around, its mesmerizing music and stunning production values justifiably won unprecedented raves from the local critics. Therefore, due to popular demand, this extraordinary production opens February 15 at the Toronto Centre for the Arts. Its limited engagement will run for eight weeks.

And there you have it—unbridled gaiety and holiday high jinks to showcase Toronto as the perfect destination for fabulous fun all winter long. Don't forget your mittens! O

A lifetime of celebrations begins ... deliciously.

Reflect your style and exceptional taste with a fabulous fête at Senses Restaurant. Whether intimate or grand, your wedding reception will be a day of beautiful and delicious memories.

sen5es

328 wellington street west (at the SoHo Metropolitan Hotel) toronto ontario 416.935.0400 www.senses.ca

SUNDAYS AT CLUB SAPIEN

Open Mic

WEEKLY SHOWS AT 7:30PM

SHOW US YOUR TALENT

To perform
show up Sunday by 7pm
or contact us at party@clubsapien.ca

1140 10 Ave SW Calgary, AB
403.457.4464 clubsapien.ca

CLUB SAPIEN

~ BRYEN DUNN

Understanding UGANDA

Over the past several months, international media attention has focused on the government of Uganda's proposed anti-homosexuality bill. It would bring harsh repercussions as strong as the death penalty, not only to LGBT citizens, but to those who associate with them as well. Going back as far as 2007 Uganda newspapers have been publishing "outings" of suspected gay and lesbian Ugandans and encouraging violence against them. They have published their names, addresses and where possible, have included their photographs as front page headlines. And even with the attention of the international press this witch-hunt continues today. As recently as November 1st when ten pages were dedicated to these 'outings" Despite this obvious hatred and discrimination, not much is being done to prevent or educate, and this may partially be the fault of western nations.

Ugandan Legislator David Bahati.

Immediately following the disclosure of personal information to the public, several individuals were ridiculed, attacked, and even forced to leave their jobs and homes. The *Rolling Stone* newspaper, which is not related to the US music publication of the same name, went so far as to call for the named persons to be hanged. Editors reiterated that they would continue to publish more names to protect the "moral fabric of our nation" and to "expose the evil in our society." Managing Editor Giles Muhame boasted, with a somewhat vigilante discourse, that "homosexuality is illegal in Uganda, but nobody is taking action against these people." The government's media council has ordered *Rolling Stone* to cease publishing, due to incomplete paperwork, but not for the printed content of the front page story. It is not the first time media has taken such strong actions, as *Red Pepper* previously printed the names and addresses of gays and lesbians in an attempt to curtail their movements.

The anti-homosexuality bill, introduced by MP David Bahati, calls for the death penalty or lengthy prison sentences for gays and lesbians. Failing to report a known LGBT person within 24 hours would constitute a crime. Many wonder about the legality of the proposal, and the intelligence of those putting forth the bill. It proposes the death penalty for people who engage in homosexual acts with minors or disabled people, those having sex while infected with HIV, and repeat offenders. Other MPs in agreement were

quoted as saying that they would kill their own children if it were discovered that they were gay, and asked if bisexuality was being imported into the country. Ugandan preacher Martin Ssempa has been accused of being "twisted" for showing gay porn to his congregation, while Ugandan Anglican Bishop Christopher Senyonjo spoke out against the proponents of the law.

Although, it has yet to be passed into legislation, many are eager to push this through without further delay. Some government officials have suggested that it may be delayed until the next election in 2011. Uganda's deputy foreign minister stated that the government doesn't currently have the power to alter the proposed legislation, due to the fact that it is a private member's bill. Another controversial Ugandan bill, tabled in May, 2010, was the mandatory testing of HIV for specific segments of the population; although ironically homosexuals were not mentioned

in the targeted groups. It has been estimated that over a million people are living with HIV, with an average of 100,000 being newly infected each year, and as many as 80 percent of those infected are unaware of their status.

Of course, Uganda is not the only African country to condone homosexuality, as it is still a crime in much of Africa, often punishable by life in prison, or even execution. Rwanda's parliament had considered a similar law, but later rescinded it. Earlier this year a Malawi male couple were arrested and jailed for 14 years for the sole purpose of openly displaying affection for one another. The sentence was later dropped and the couple was released from prison after international outrage against such barbaric actions. Incidentally, the two men were convicted under a law dating back to colonial rule by Britain that outlawed homosexuality.

This past February, US President Barack Obama attended the annual National Prayer Breakfast held in Washington, typically attended by several world leaders and stronghold religious proponents. Ugandan MP Bahati had initially been invited, but had his invitation revoked due to his proposed controversial legislation. This yearly event is organized by the Fellowship Foundation, a fundamentalist religious organization with a leader, who has been accused of praising the organizing abilities of Hitler and Bin Laden. Obama briefly mentioned the issue in Uganda in a very impartial context, before moving on to other topics.

Controversial US pastor Rick Warren released a statement criticizing Uganda's anti-homosexuality bill, as did most of the other attendees. Yet, this seems to be the extent to which western nations want to get involved. In reality, it would seem somewhat hypocritical for the United States to interfere much beyond this, given that some American states still have anti-sodomy laws on the books that apply to heterosexuals as well.

Some European countries have suggested reducing or cutting aid to Uganda as a means of putting pressure on the government to veto this bill. Activists often urge Commonwealth leaders to remove Uganda from the Commonwealth group, unless it drops the proposed law. However, severing all forms of financial support would have a devastating effect on ordinary citizens—nearly a third reside in poverty, and many may not be in agreement or share the same views as these lawmakers. The UN high commissioner for human rights said that the proposed legislation was "draconian" and "blatantly discriminatory." In contrast, the Ugandan ethics minister has accused the United Nations member countries of being involved in a covert mission to "impose homosexuality" on other nations.

While impoverished countries rely heavily on foreign aid, cutting off this necessary source of income is not necessarily the solution to achieving democracy within a civil society. Western governments should determine how and where to distribute funding, so that the money received will directly impact local citizens and not be provided to the government as a lump sum. Ensuring that local NGOs, advocacy groups, and human rights organizations receive sufficient funding to bring about education is a necessity to countering the evils of the state.

"they would kill their own children if it was discovered they were gay..."

A Ugandan Supporter.

HANG THEM; THEY ARE AFTER OUR KIDS!!

Pictures Of Uganda's Top 100 Homos Leak

LESBIANS DESTROYED MY LIFE AT AGE OF 16-SANDRA

Remember, this is not an issue isolated to Uganda or Africa. Out of the world's 242 countries, homosexuality is still illegal for females in 45 and males in 78. Also, eight of these countries still allow the death penalty as the maximum form of punishment.

So, while we sit back and criticize the policies of other countries, we may want to take a closer look at what our own governments are doing to aid or prevent global human rights objectives. Yes, money can be a great motivator; but it is also known as the root of all evil. First and foremost should be the fair treatment of all human beings with dignity and respect. O

More Info:

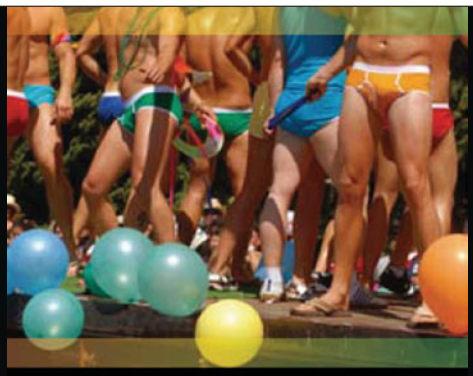
Uganda Government - **www.statehouse.go.ug**

United Nations - **www.un.org**

Canadian Foreign Affairs - **www.international.gc.ca/international/index.aspx**

Sexual Minorities Uganda - **www.sexualminoritiesuganda.org**

Behind the Mask - **www.mask.org.za**



Gay Travel . . .
Worldwide

Your source for gay & gay friendly destinations, travel industry businesses, online auctions for fabulous gay travel packages & more!

IGLTA®
International Gay & Lesbian Travel Association

www.iglta.org

www.travelstorecalgary.com

PIPE STONE TRAVEL STORE

Everything you need for travel ....
except the trip!

CALGARY NORTH
Crowfoot Corner
#103, 150 Crowfoot Cres. N.W.
Calgary, Alberta
403.239.7084
CALGARY WEST
West Market Square
#517, 1851 Sirocco Dr. S.W.
Calgary, Alberta
403.242.3160
CALGARY SOUTH
Willow Park Village
#472, 10816 Macleod Trl. South
Calgary, Alberta
403.777.1767

You'll flip for us

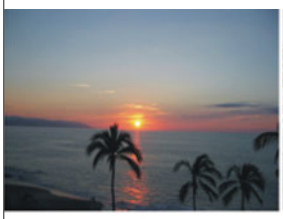
When visiting Ottawa, relax in the **elegance** of our beautiful Victorian bed & breakfast in the **heart** of the action.

Discover the **comfort** of the Inn on Somerset.

Inn on Somerset

282 Somerset St. W., Ottawa
(800) 658-3564
www.innonsomerset.com
email: info@innonsomerset.com

BOANA Puerto Vallarta
MEXICO



Each unit has:
* 1 bedroom
* 2 bathrooms
* kitchenette
* living room
* balcony
* air-conditioning
* maid service

Boana Torre Malibu-Condo Hotel, One block from GAY beach
Amapas 325, Zona Romantica, Puerto Vallarta Tel/fax 011-52 (322) 222-6695 / 222-0999
www.boana.net boana@pvnet.com.mx

Soak IN THE Atmosphere

Twin Anchors can provide an extraordinary setting for your special event!

We welcome the opportunity to host your corporate team for a training session or team building function. Perhaps you're looking to create a memorable special occasion? We would love to help you create your special event. Consider the staff at Twin Anchors as your part of your crew.

TWIN·ANCHORS HOUSEBOATS

FOR DETAILS CALL
1.800.663.4026

WWW.TWINANCHORS.COM

Travel Editor Randall Shirley on board Air North: Yukon's Airline...decidedly not one of the carriers that flew over dad's spud farm. Photo: Randall Shirley

Randall on the Road

The places you'll go.

On my childhood bookshelf was a well-worn copy of Dr. Seuss' *Oh, The Places You'll Go*. And thank god for it, because my childhood was stuck firmly to one place: dad's potato farm. But lots of airplanes flew overhead. My body may have been on the ground moving sprinkler pipe and driving tractors, but my spirit was on every one of the airplanes that flew above. I dreamed of the places they were going, but I'm not sure I really believed Dr. Seuss. I should have, because today I'm on airplanes very frequently.

As a kid, I'd never heard of many of the airlines I fly now (I'm on Lufthansa today, in fact). And some of the airlines of my youth don't exist anymore (having grown up in the States I feel the same about Western Airlines as you likely feel about Canadian Airlines: they seemed better than the carriers that absorbed them, Delta and Air Canada respectively).

Of course, I also thought I was the only little boy who dreamed of running away from the potato farm, and the places I'd go. Today I realize that many other little gay boys were dreaming of escaping their own versions of the farm, and that collectively, many of us have done just that—not only by moving to big cities, but by our almost incessant globetrotting ways.

In the following pages you'll see quite a list of "places you'll go." Many of you have likely been to many of them. Some may surprise you. You may be surprised to see a feature article on Houston, Texas.

As we wrap 2010 and see travel rebounding along with the economy, I hope you'll keep dreaming of places to go, and then go. As Dr. Seuss promises: "Somehow you'll escape all that waiting and staying. You'll find the bright places where Boom Bands are playing. With banner flip-flapping, once more you'll ride high! Ready for anything under the sky. Ready because you're that kind of a guy!" Travel well.

~ Randall Shirley

Canada is a Top

Top of the travel world's list, that is. New poll results released by FutureBrand show that Canada has resumed its place at the top of the global traveller's dream list. All the more reason to visit another part of your own country, don't you think? www.futurebrand.com.

Toronto's Best Meal Value?

You lesbians (and even some gay men) likely had a crush on superstar chef Lynn Crawford during her TV appearances on Restaurant Makeover. Get a taste of her food philosophy (food should be local, fresh, and shared) at her new Toronto restaurant Ruby Watchco. Co-chef Lora Kirk will likely do your cooking, and it's delicious for both your tongue and your wallet. The menu is no-choice (you get what they're cooking, unless you're vegetarian or require fish), served family-style in four glorious courses, and only $49. Bargain. Reserve waaaay in advance. www.rubywatchco.com

Luxury hotel gives away "free" stuff

Vancouver's recently overhauled, very gay-friendly St. Regis Hotel gets high marks for unique "free" stuff including full breakfast, Internet and business centre access, worldwide long distance calling and even free in-room bottled water. The downtown property has CAA/AAA rates from $125, so the stuff's not really free, just good value. www.stregishotel.com

The only thing closer than the village is room service.

Located in the heart of downtown Toronto and around the corner from the Village, the Delta Chelsea is just steps from vibrant nightclubs, fabulous live theatre and amazing shopping.

Whether you choose to stay in or step out, you'll fnd it all at our urban resort.

Complimentary upgrade to a Signature Club Room*

DELTA CHELSEA DOWNTOWN TORONTO

For information on our Rainbow Rate, call 1-800-CHELSEA (243-5732) or visit www.deltachelsea.com/gaytoronto

*Upgrade conditional on booking the Rainbow Rate. Upgrade will be provided at check-in, subject to availability.

~ RANDALL SHIRLEY

Oil Me Up!

48 Gay Hours in Houston

Photo: Greater Houston CVB / Jim Olive

*Travel Editor **Randall Shirley** didn't want to go to Houston, now he can't wait to go back. Here's his guide for the perfectly gay weekend in a city you might visit for business or to catch a cruise.*

I wasn't prepared to like Houston. Maybe it was because their airport is named after the father of America's least favourite ex-president: George Bush. Maybe it was the tired "everything's bigger in Texas" attitude. Or maybe it was simply the fact that every time I've changed planes there (it is Continental's main hub), the city just doesn't look compelling from the air.

But when I needed to visit Houston for business meetings (as likely happens to many of you oil-patch Alberta readers), I decided to stay on for the weekend to see if oil-patch Houston has a gay soul. It does, and I'll never avoid Houston again. It is the largest U.S. city with an openly LGBT (lesbian) mayor, fantastic food, excellent shopping, and a surprising emphasis on the arts. Here's your weekend guide:

Barnett Newman's "Broken Obelisk" is in memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at the Rothko Chapel.
Photo: Randall Shirley

New-to-you Mexican flavours are found at Pico's Mex-Mex.
Photo: Randall Shirley

Sliders: "order in threes" at Little Bigs.
Photo: Randall Shirley

FRIDAY

Afternoon: Check in at bright 'n fresh **Hotel Indigo**, a boutique chain hotel smack next to the Galleria shopping centre. I liked it both for its location, a good fitness centre, and the fact that it's TAG-approved (TAG is a gay hospitality consulting firm in San Francisco that "approves" hotels if they meet certain diversity criteria and pay a fee).

Walk across the street from the hotel to **Argentina Café** for pastries laced with dulce de leche and an excellent coffee.

Caffeinated, dive into the bazillion square-foot **Galleria Shopping Centre.** It's ultimately just a big mall, but it's got sex appeal—and they've included a public ice rink to make you Edmonton gays feel at home. But they've got two things even you Toronto gays can't claim: Nordstrom and Neiman Marcus. With our strong dollar, shop, y'all! Some of you will likely spend the whole weekend there…

Evening: Tonight is reserved for one of the best Mexican meals of your life. Just a 15-minute drive from the hotel, **Pico's Mex-Mex** is constantly ranked as Houston's finest Mexican restaurant. There's nothing gay about it, but you foodies will not believe your taste buds when you dive into the rarely-on-a-menu mole called "Mancha Manteles," an ancho chile sauce with chunks of apple, pineapple, plantains, and sweet potatoes, served over both pork and chicken. To die for. Trust me.

SATURDAY

Morning: Hit the weights at the hotel gym, then fuel up on the healthy egg-white, spinach, and cheese sandwich in the hotel's Golden Bean Café. After breakfast, take a neighbourhood stroll and find the gloriously phallic **Williams Tower**, Houston's tallest skyscraper. The foyer doubles as an art gallery, and on my recent trip included large cubist-esque landscapes by artist Michael Guidry, who also has the enviable job of art curator for the University of Houston where some 3% of every new building's price tag is reserved for public art. (Check out Michael's campus art tour, "Touring UH's Public Art Collection" on YouTube; you can purchase his art at Houston's **Wade Wilson Gallery**).

Afternoon: You're headed to Houston's gayest neighbourhood, **Montrose**. Lunch is at **Little Bigs**, where Chef Bryan Caswell (of *Iron Chef* fame) has taken the "slider" hamburger to high art, using meat ground freshly on-site, topping it with caramelized onions and serving it on a homemade roll. You can order a single, but I took their advice and ordered "in threes," plus added cheese and a butterscotch milkshake. If you've forgotten how divine a simple, fresh hamburger can be, this will remind you. Chicken, pork, and veggie sliders available, too.

Forget all the new things you bought yesterday at the Galleria, because this afternoon's all about shopping for the old. Just a few blocks from Little Bigs is an antique and second-hand shopper's wet-dream-come-true. A couple-dozen independent shops line both sides of Westheimer Street between Montrose and Shepherd streets. They're full of amazing finds and friendly people. My faves included used-clothing mecca **Taxi-Taxi** with its multitude of cowboy boots, mid-century furniture shop **Cool Stuff** where I came dangerously close to purchasing a baby grand piano from owner Glen Guidroz (partner, no less, of Michael Guidry), and **Flash Back** where friendly Bill Howard sells a vintage collection shop signs, arcade games, and chotchkes. I also loved über-cool boutique bookstore **Domy** where the graphic book covers are as interesting as the contents. The area is very walkable and your afternoon will disappear.

Evening: Dinner tonight is in downtown Houston at gay-popular **17 Restaurant**, where you've made a reservation for their $35 theatre prix-fixe. Then you're off for culture at **Alley Theatre**, one of America's truly fine local theatre companies. When I attended the Alley's recent, astoundingly-good production of *Peter Pan* (not the musical), friendly audience members seated nearby were mostly season subscribers. They assured me that show after show, the Alley's talented acting company delivers.

Late night: If you're keen for the bar scene, head back to the Montrose area. There are a number of bars, with **JR's** feeling the most inclusive (men, women). Just across the street is the everyman bar, called **Montrose Mining Company**. The coolest bar I visited, **Meteor**, is a hip space with ridiculously hot models showering. It's a few blocks away but no worries, the bar owner runs a shuttle service between JR's and Meteor. The shuttle van is tarted-up limo style, and if it's a busy night, here's your chance to snuggle close to someone you've got your eye on.

SUNDAY

Morning: Take time for your spiritual side: head to the **Rothko Chapel**. This is a seriously cool place—a completely nondenominational facility built in 1971 as a spot where people from any religious tradition, or no religion at all, can meditate and reflect. Take a seat in the octagonal sanctuary, and allow your eyes to relax. You'll gradually realize that the massive canvas paintings are not simply black, but marvellous shades of black and purple and grey. Walk past the famous broken obelisk sculpture in the gardens, and a few steps down the street to view the equally glorious **Byzantine Fresco Chapel Museum**, containing the only such frescoes in the western hemisphere. The imaginative glass chapel they hang in as impressive as the frescoes.

Noon: If you're keen to try what I believe is the world's best BLT, head to the patio at **Café Brasil**—a bustling place with lousy service but gobs of atmosphere and very good food.

Afternoon: If you don't have to rush away, head for the nearby **Menil Collection**, one of the continent's finest private art collections, or to any of the 17 museums in the **Museum District**. Otherwise, Give yourself a good hour to get to George Bush airport and wish you had more time in Houston! O

A maganificent oak tree frames Houston's excellent Menil Collection of art.
Photo: Randall Shirley

Get your shit-kickers at Taxi-Taxi.
Photo: Randall Shirley

One of Montrose's galleries ans shops.
Photo: Randall Shirley

The Details

General gay traveller info at www.MyGayHouston.com

Stay:

- **Hotel Indigo at the Galleria**, 5160 Hidalgo St., 713-621-8988, www.houstonluxuryhotel.com
- **Lovett Inn B&B** (gay-owned), 501 Lovett Blvd., 713-522-5224, www.lovettinn.com

Eat:

- **Argentina Café**, 3055 Sage Rd., Suite 130, 713-622-8877
- **Pico's Mex-Mex**, 5941 Bellaire Blvd., 713-662-8383, www.picos.net
- **Little Bigs**, 2703 Montrose Blvd., www.littlebigshouston.com
- **Café Brasil**, 2604 Dunlavy St., 713-528-1993
- **17 Restaurant**, 1117 Prairie St., 832-200-8888, www.aldenhotels.com/17

Play:

- **Alley Theatre Company**, 615 Texas Ave., 713-220-5700, www.alleytheatre.org
- **Wade Wilson Art Gallery**, 4411 Montrose, Suite 200B, 713-521-2977, www.wadewilsonart.com
- **Rothko Chapel**, 3900 Yukon St., 713-524-9839, www.rothkochapel.org
- **Menil Collection** (Art): 1515 Sul Ross St., 713-525-9400, www.menil.org
- **Cool Stuff Mid-Century Antiques**, 1718 Westheimer Rd., 713-523-5222, www.coolstuffnola.com
- **Domy Books**, 1709 Westheimer Rd., 713-523-3669, www.domystore.com/houston
- **JR's Bar**, 808 Pacific St., 713-521-2519, www.jrsbarandgrill.com
- **Montrose Mining Co. Bar**, 805 Pacific St., 713-529-7488
- **Meteor Bar**, 2306 Genesee St, 713-521-0123, www.myspace.com/meteorhouston

Photo: Greater Houston CVB

INN Exile

545 Warm Sands Drive
Palm Springs, CA 92264
800-962-0186
www.innexile.com

CLOSE YOUR EYES AND FANTASIZE ABOUT A PLACE WHERE BEING GAY IS A WAY OF LIFE.

Inn Exile is entirely gated, and located on 2 1/2 acres in a modern Southwest setting. The atmosphere couldn't be more inviting. With 4 Pools, there is a place to splash around everywhere you look. The Billiard Room, The Gang Way, or the Lap Top Lounge are a great way to pass the time with new friends. After your workout in the fully equipped gymnasium, choose one of the Jacuzzis, or perhaps the steam room to relax, recharge, or even invigorate. Days may be spent in the Sun, but the Outdoor Fireplace after Sunset, seems to call to everyone. Remember, at **Inn Exile, clothing is always optional.**

Century palm springs

Warm sands just got cooler

Call for our Special Rates for *OUTLOOKS* readers

Modern, hip and comfortable
A place to enjoy Palm Springs

760-323-9966 or 800-475-5188 www.centurypalmsprings.com

The Largest Clothing Optional Gay Men's Resort in So. Ca!

44 Deluxe Rooms
Video Room
Open 24 - 7
Locker Room
Jacuzzi
Huge Pool
JOCKuzzi Spa
Sauna & Steam
Waterfalls
Nude Beach
Adult Channels
Military Compound
Dungeon
The "Walk"

Stay 2 Nights
Get a 3rd Free
For the month of December*

CCBC RESORT HOTEL
www.ccbcps.com
68-369 Sunair Rd, Cathedral City, CA
760-324-1350 800-472-0836

RESORT PASSES AVAILABLE 24 / 7
JUST $13 ALL DAY WEDNESDAYS & SUNDAYS
7-11AM, includinng Continental Breakfast*
*excluding holidays & special events. call for complete details.

Palm Springs

DECEMBER/JANUARY
SPECIAL
$99
Call or Visit Our Website For Details
©DAVID MORGAN

INNdulge
PALM SPRINGS

24 Poolside Rooms
24 Hour Pool & Jacuzzi
Gym On Site
Free Guest Internet Stations
Property-wide Wireless Internet Access

Clothing is Forever Optional

For Adventurous Gay Men

In the Heart of Warm Sands
(800)833-5675 • (760)327-1408
www.inndulge.com
601 Grenfall Road at Farocela • Palm Springs, CA 92264

Planet Out's FIVE PALMS AWARD

Canyon Club HOTEL

16 Man Spa
50' Heated Pool
Outdoor Maze
32 Rooms w/ Fridges
8 Suites w/ Kitchens
24 Hr Steam & Sauna
Poolside Mist System
Pet Friendly
6 Adult Video Channels
Near Casinos
Rooms w/ Computers
Continental Breakfast
Free Wifi

ROOMS FROM $89

877.258.2887
www.canyonclubhotel.com
960 North Palm Canyon | Palm Springs, CA 92262

Randall Shirley's Top 50 Greatest Gay Travel Experiences: Part 1

The list below started a year ago. Editors of travel magazines seem to be crazy about "best of lists," so I started penning my own for what I believe are the planet's greatest places and experiences for gay travellers.

Along the way, I decided to ask OUTLOOKS and other readers and friends to chime in on the topic through a very non-scientific survey, and god love those of you who slogged through my survey! Destinations/Events that ranked high on the survey with crossover to my personal list are highlighted with an asterisk (*). Places/events I haven't yet visited are marked with ▼.

Agree with my list? Disagree? I hope you'll do some of both. Feel free to email me or engage with me on my blog at 5faves.com/GLBT to discuss!

Meanwhile, pick a spot or two from the list, and get planning a great trip!

The Historic Places

1. Stonewall Inn, New York City. It's just a gay bar, but, when you visit NYC you should pause here to consider the brave men and women who stood up to police 41 years ago, essentially starting what we now call "coming out."

2. Harvey Milk Plaza and the Castro*, San Francisco. If you don't know the story of Milk, get reading. He was the first openly-gay man elected to public office in the United States, and his assassination helped push the gay-rights movement forward. Overhead flies the largest rainbow flag I've ever seen. S.F., my friends, is the "mother ship."

3. Mount Sodom/Sedom, Israel. While historians would have a field day with this idea, I like to think of Sodom as the first "gay village." Regardless how the place was destroyed—perhaps the first recorded anti-gay violence?—Sodom's name lives on in infamy for gay men.

4. Isle of Lesbos, Greece ▼. What Sodom means to me as a gay man, I imagine Lesbos should mean to gay women.

5. Alexander Wood Statue, Toronto's* Church-Wellesley Village. "Molly" Wood, as he was known (circa 1812), was perhaps the first well-known gay man in Canada. The statue's plaque calls him a "gay pioneer."

6. The Supreme Court of Canada, Ottawa ▼. The fair-minded justices here put our country on the map. I'll be taking the tour in March 2011.

7. Berlin,* Germany. Realizing that gays were out here in the 1920s, prior to the Nazis killing as many of us as possible is a stark reminder that we must never take our rights for granted. Thankfully, today's Berlin is gay again.

The Uniquely-gay Events

8. A circuit party, Miami*. While the genre is losing steam and was never really for me, reputedly nowhere does circuit like Miami. So many parties it's hard to count.

9. Mardi Gras*, Sydney, Australia. An outstanding night-time Pride parade plus one of the planets biggest dance parties. Very fun.

Sydney's Mardi Gras offers a unique, evening gay parade. Photo: Randall Shirley

10. Gay Rodeo*, Calgary, Alberta. While they lost the intimacy of their previous ranch location, ARGRA still puts on a uniquely intimate, self-contained western event that is an absolute blast.

11. International Mr. Leather (IML), Chicago, Illinois.

12. Gay Tango Milonga, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Bring your patience and your dance shoes. Exceptionally special.

13. Gay Ski Week, Aspen, Colorado. The event that made gay skiers' après-ski fantasies come true. Canada's Whistler event* is also outstanding.

14. Gay Games / OutGames. The location changes, creating unique opportunities to visit gay-welcoming cities that might otherwise not be on your gaydar, like Cologne, Germany, or Akron, Ohio. The next big event, however is North American Out Games in Vancouver, 2011.

15. All-gay Cruise*. Having been three times, I assure you these are very fun trips—essentially non-stop gay events at sea. And as one survey respondent put it, there's nothing like "Romancing and fucking on the deck in the moonlight on a gay cruise."

Cultural Gay Travels

16. Broadway* Musicals, New York City. Because there's a showtune in every gay heart.

17. Concert Halls & Opera Houses, Europe. You know how great the symphony, opera, and ballet are at home. For me it adds a layer of beauty to see these genres in their "native" land.

18. Disneyland / Disney World. Don't sneer and pretend you don't love it. Go. Let yourself be Peter Pan for a day or three. The place is loaded with gay talent and gay guests.

19. Michelangelo's "David," Florence, Italy. Chances are at some point you've had a magnet of him on your fridge. Now go see the real thing.

20. Museum of Erotica, Copenhagen, Denmark. You're greeted by a six-foot tall, gilded penis. Need I say more? And while you're in town, do not miss the Thorvaldsen Museum with its incredibly sexy Jesus.

Berlin is one of the most gay-friendly cities on earth. Photo: Randall Shirley

Copenhagen's Erotica Museum illustrates the Danes' open attitude about sex. Photo: Randall Shirley

Other favourite events from the survey:

- Gay Pride Festivals (Worldwide)
- Southern Decadence Party, New Orleans
- Montréal's Black & Blue Party
- Beef Dip, Puerto Vallarta
- Lazy Bears Weekend, Northern California
- "Folsum" Fetish Fairs: San Francisco, Europe, NYC

The Gay Outdoors

21. Fire Island, New York. The reputation of this beachy gay playground near NYC is the stuff of legends. Friends who've been say it's everything you've seen in the porn videos...if that's what you're looking for.

22. Wreck Beach, Vancouver, British Columbia. Possibly the most-famous legal nude beach in North America. Gay have loved the place for decades, and the swampy south end of the beach is almost exclusively ours.

23. Little Beach, Maui, Hawaii. While this nude beach is not entirely gay, it's damn close. And it is incredibly beautiful with great swimming options.

24. Posto 9, Ipanema Beach, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Gays from around the world flock to this area on one of the world's most-famous strips of sand...in probably the world's most-beautiful setting.

25. The Grand Canyon, Arizona. The spot that launched an industry: the first "gay adventure" tour took place here, and all-gay trips down the mighty Colorado continue to be among the top-sellers for gay-adventure tour operators. The experience of the Grand Canyon—no matter how you see it or who you see it with, is life-changing. Awesome. O

Don't miss the other 25! Get your February 2011 copy of OUTLOOKS for my picks on great cities, gay villages, and more.

Brazil's Ipanema Beach includes a vibrant gay section. Photo: Dreamstime.com

Fort Lauderdale, Florida

A five-day, mini holiday may be just what you need, and Fort Lauderdale may just be the place! Here's a Friday-to-Tuesday plan that will keep you hopping and shopping with the "must dos," especially if this is your first time in town.

You will want to grab an early morning flight in order to get to Florida by late afternoon if you are coming from the West. Although there are some direct flights, most carriers will connect through their hub city. There are many options to fly direct from the East. There's always the option of connecting through Toronto for an evening of theatre before catching a flight out in the morning. There are lots of new shows opening this year; so check it out before you confirm your flights.

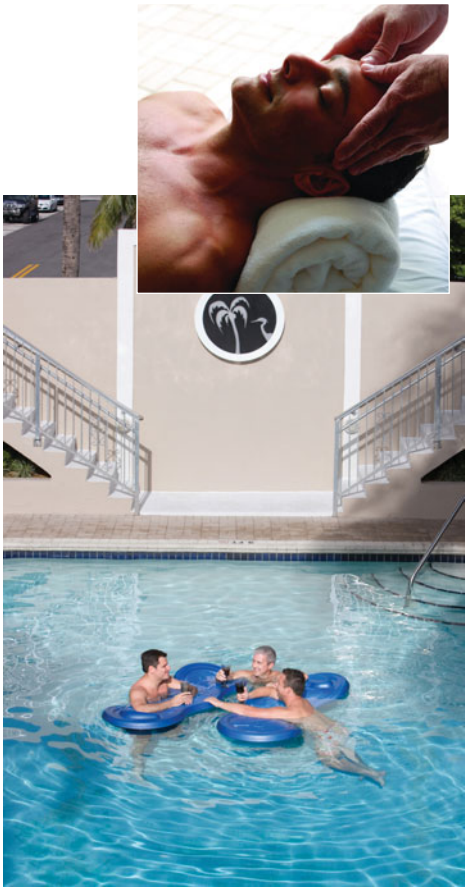
Before you fly make sure to book a rental car for arrival as everything in town is a bit spread out and carbides would add up way too quick. We found Dollar-Rent-A-Car had the best prices and packages when we were there and they are located right inside the terminal too.

Fort Lauderdale has a broad selection of gay-owned resorts, as well as many mainstream hotels. ***The Atlantic Resort and Spa***, for example, is directly across the street from the beach and features high-end rooms with all the amenities. There are luxury rooms that start with an oversized hotel room and can be as large as over three thousand square feet of indulgent penthouse comfort. Here at The Atlantic, you will also find one of the most amazing and indulgent spas anywhere in North America. The overall feeling of the property is that of European boutique luxury.

The Atlantic Resort and Spa.

Now, as far as men's resorts go, there are two very different areas to consider, depending on what you're looking for. There is the "Beaches" area and "Wilton Manners." They are about a 15-minute drive from one another. The Beaches area—as the name implies—is close to the beaches and very accessible to some great eateries and shopping. Wilton Manners on the other hand, is much closer to the gay nightlife. It is where all the bars and clubs are. Resort prices, in either area, range from about $90 to $250 a night, depending on the amount of space and exclusivity you're looking for. A couple of recommendations would be ***Flamingos Inn Amongst the Flowers***, ***The Grand Resort and Spa*** or ***The Cabanas Guest House & Spa***.

The Grand Resort and Spa was developed by conjoining two individual properties and—as the name implies—this resort is really quite grand. The separated properties each have a different feel. The poolside property is where most of the people hang out during the day and is a little busier.



The Grand Resort and Spa.

The hot tub side is quieter during the day but gets busier at night. The Grand also offers its guests on-site spa services from facials to mud massages in its wet room. And, yes, even your basic haircut and styling is available. The prices are very reasonable compared to a number of the stand-alone spas in the city.

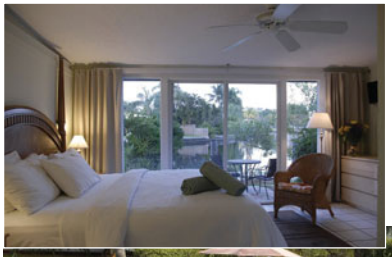
Flamingo Inn Amongst the Flowers.

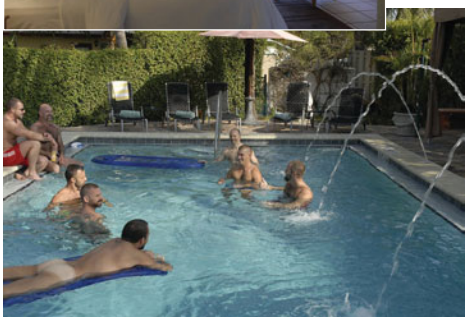
The Flamingos Inn Amongst the Flowers is probably the highest end of the gay properties that we visited. It has a smaller number of rooms; but they are spectacularly appointed and are really mini suites. Lots of art in the rooms, comfortable furniture and canopied beds make for a romantic getaway. Flamingos has a very relaxed feel with a jungle of tropical plants and many fountains throughout the property. It has a great lounge area with big couches to invite a few friends into, and a cozy, private alcove in the trees for a more private conversation. The entire property is very secluded and private.

Aside from these higher end properties, there are also a couple of other great places to stay that may be more within your budget. ***Elysium Resort*** and ***Cheston House*** are two worth mentioning, as they are well-maintained properties with clothing optional courtyards and pool areas. Both have the option for a standard guest room (queen/king) all the way up to suites and apartments. Situated in the "Beaches" area, they are well within walking distance to the beach.

These are all within easy walking distance to the Sebastian gay beach. Although the entire area is very gay-friendly; so no need to go exclusively "where the boys are" since they are everywhere.

Now, in Wilton Manners area, our top recommendation would be ***Cabanas Guest House & Spa***. This resort has a number of two- to four-bedroom "houses" scattered around its property. Cabanas is constantly updating its rooms—so you will have a very comfortable stay no matter what room it has available. Being in Wilton Manners means that you are closer to the night life; but for water relaxation, it has kayaks available to the guests so that you can investigate some of the inland waterways and stalk the rich and famous that live in multi-, multi- million-dollar properties along the water.





The Cabanas Guest House and Spa.

Once you get settled in, the balance of the day can be spent poolside, for a little time, to unwind from all the hassles of "getting there." It might also be a good time to book some spa services for the weekend, as appointments do fill up quickly.

Halloween 2010 at Sidelines.

Bill's Filling Station.

The Living Room.

Evening:

For dinner—try out ***La Bamba*** (a Mexican Restaurant). Very authentic food and quite a popular hangout for the locals. From there, I would suggest ***Sidelines Sports Bar***—one of only a few real sports bars in a gay community. A great place for drinks, meeting folks, and maybe a game of pool or darts. Another good spot would be ***Bill's Filling Station***, down the street a block or two—a great spot to meet the beefier boys. Or, if you need to dance off your burrito calories, then move on over to the ***Living Room***—a very sexy new club and your best bet to possibly rub shoulders with a celeb or two while in town.

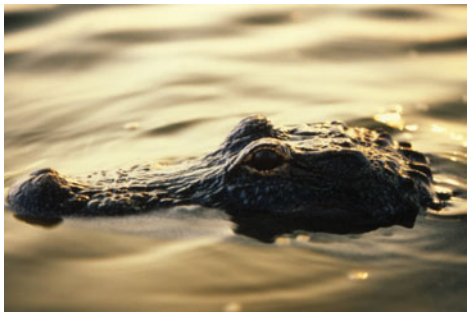
SATURDAY:

During the Day:

The men's resorts all have a complimentary continental breakfast included with your room. Enjoy a leisurely coffee by the pool while you plan your day. There are plenty of options, depending on your energy level. The resort should have chairs or umbrellas that you can take to the beach for a full day of sun. A low-key day of reading or enjoying the boys by the pool is another option.

For the more adventurous, ***Billie Swamp Safari*** is a good way to spend time outside and see something new. You can get specific directions by picking up a brochure at your hotel or at a tourist information centre. This is a fairly large centre in the Everglades that would appear to be able to handle about a thousand tourists a day. The large swamp buggy will take you on a road-and-water tour, and there will be plenty of opportunities to stop and view lots of animals —both local and imported. There is a demonstration covering the poisonous snakes in the park. The highlight is an airboat ride through the Everglades. You'll get a chance to feed some of the alligators and turtles along the route. The boat gets up some pretty good speed; so bring a scarf along to keep your hair in place since "presentation is everything." Food choices on the tour are kind of limited; so you may want to have a hearty breakfast before venturing out. Cost is about $30 per person and is worth doing, especially if you have never seen the Everglades or ridden in an airboat. Including the drive out, it will pretty much be an all-day event.

Airboat Tour - Billie Swamp Adventure.



Just chillin' and waiting for lunch.

Stuart Yankall "Market of Sunlight"

Todd White "Who's Got This Round"

Tim Otis "Judy Garland"

Todd White "Who's Got This Round"

The Hamilton Gallery

FINE ART, JEWELRY & ACCESSORIES

Come visit our newest Gallery!

615 E. Las Olas Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale FL 33301 ♦ www.TheHamiltonGallery.com

For more information call (954) 761-1408

Contemporary Masters ♦ Original Art ♦ Fine Art Prints ♦ Wearable Art

Michael Rozenvain "Coffee in Paris"

Tripp Harrison "Hidden Cove"

Todd White "Bar Code"

We are open 7 days a week!!
Call us at **954-761-1408**
or visit our website
www.TheHamiltonGallery.com
Sign up to receive our monthly newsletter and view upcoming events.

Appraisals ♦ In-Home Consultations ♦ Art Auctions ♦ Interior Designers Welcome

Evening:

The ***Atlantic Resort and Spa*** would be a great choice for drinks and dinner. Request a table on the alfresco terrace for breath-taking views and warm ocean breezes. Arrive early so that you can sample a hand-muddled mojito in the lounge before dinner. For more casual dining, visit ***Ocean Terrace Bar & Cafe***. This hidden gem is located on the fifth floor ocean terrace—next to the heated pool—and serves up delightful frozen specialties and light fare.

Trina Restaurant & Lounge in The Atlantic Hotel would be a nice evening, after riding the swamp buggy. This award-winning, high-design hotspot features authentic and inspired World-Fusion cuisine. Trina was named the "Best Restaurant with an Ocean View" in the April, 2009 issue of Ft. Lauderdale Magazine. It's an easy walk back to any of the beach resorts; so you don't have to worry about the amount of wine you consume.

Trina Restaurant and Lounge.

If you're still raring to go after dinner, the ***Mansion Nightclub*** is a great place to finish off the evening.

SUNDAY

During the Day:

Water Taxi.

The ***Water Taxi*** is an opportunity to take a leisurely cruise along Fort Lauderdale's famous waterways, which have earned the city the nickname, "The Venice of America." There are fourteen stops en route; so you can go to the beach, shop and dine on Las Olas Boulevard, and see the cruise ships at Port Everglades. As you travel these waterways, you will see some of the most amazing houses—err, mansions—along with their yachts politely docked out front, Definitely a Fortune 500 neighbourhood. It's a great way to get around, because your ticket allows unlimited boardings throughout Fort Lauderdale.

Rosie's Bar and Grill is the place to be seen on Sunday for late brunch. Rosie's is located in Wilton Manors and, by now, you'll have no trouble finding your way over to the strip, so to speak. Any time between eleven and three is great.

Now, after lunch, you can head back for an afternoon at the beach or pool. Another option would be the ***Museum of Art*** (also a good refuge if you are unfortunate enough to have a rainy day). The museum has regular travelling exhibits of well-know artists. Down the Rabbit Hole: Salvador Dali's Alice in Wonderland Suite was one of the most recent exhibits to be showcased. Check out the museum's website (www.moaflnsu.org) for upcoming shows. The shops and galleries along Los Olas Boulevard are a good option for your souvenir purchases. What better way to remember your trip than a nice piece of art. ***The Hamilton Gallery*** has a wonderful collection from some very talented artists. From water scenes to abstracts, the quality and pricing is great. For example, it is also the only Florida distributor for Todd White's works. Owner Janice Hamilton will be pleased to show you around the gallery or fill you in on the latest gossip from around town. You should ask her about her role in the gay film "Life's a Drag."

Hi-Life Café.

Evening:

Dinner at ***Hi-Life Café*** can be a romantic escape for two, or a great meal with the gang. The restaurant is tucked away in a strip mall on the North Federal Highway. Martinis won't be on the menu though as, believe it or not, a local state law prohibits the sale of hard liquor in establishments that are considered close to churches. Not to worry though, there are lots of choices on the beer and wine menu. The Belgian endive salad features individual leaves topped with blue cheese, chopped pecans and tomatoes, drizzled with a champagne vinaigrette. Yum! The entrees feature lots of seafood, chicken and steaks. The crab cakes are served with a light mustard ponzu sauce and a hint of raspberry. The key lime pie for dessert is a long-standing favourite, and it's done from scratch!

After two late nights at the clubs, perhaps a relaxing evening in the hot tub at the resort is in order. And you will definitely need your rest for Monday.

MONDAY

During the Day:

It's time to shop, shop, shop!

Florida's second largest tourist attraction, next to Disney—believe it or not—is an outlet mall. So, ***Sawgrass Mills*** is on today's hit list. The mall is about a thirty- to forty-minute drive from the "Beaches" area. Again, directions should be available from the resort. Sawgrass is open from 10:00 a.m to 9:30 p.m. on Mondays—so there's lots of time to experience the more than three hundred and fifty designer outlet stores. The Oasis at Sawgrass Mills and the Colonnade Outlets at Sawgrass Mills provide outdoor dining, entertainment and additional shopping options. There are way to many great stores to even begin naming some of them. Also in the mix are two incredible food courts and six

full-service restaurants. After all, we must keep up our energy. Perhaps bringing an extra collapsible suitcase with you should be on your packing list; because—if you look for them—there are some really great deals to be had.

Now, if you are shopper like I am, there goes the day.

Evening:

If you've still got energy to move, then head on back to Los Olas for dinner at ***Johnny V Restaurant*** (625 E Las Olas Blvd). They have a very interesting menu and the food is grand! Make reservations and sit on the patio to enjoy the weather and do some people watching for your last night in town.

Johnny V Restaurant.

Another, more casual and quite fun option to round out your Fort Lauderdale tour would be the very gay ***Georgie's Alibi***. This bar has the typical pub grub with the Best Burger Award for 2010 (I had it. and it really is a winner—yum), friendly waiters and a nice crowd of regulars.

Georgie's Alibi - Best Burger Award.

And it HAS TO BE MONDAY NIGHT that you go, as in the Manchester Room at Alibi, starting at 8 p.m., you will find the best Dame Edna impersonator you have ever seen. Michael L. Walters has been delighting audiences for over ten years with his impersonation of Dame Edna, which Provincetown Magazine calls "a dead-on homage to the famous saucy Aussie." Walters is so perfect as Dame Edna that Barry Humphries, creator of Dame Edna Everage, calls his performance "spectacular!" The longest running authorized Dame Edna impersonator, Michael is also the only impersonator who wears replicas of the Dame's fabulous gowns and even performs her classic musical numbers! A lifelong veteran of the stage, Walters delivers a "theatrical tour de force." Aside from Dame Edna, Michael can impersonate many of the female divas and Broadway stars.

TUESDAY

It's that time—pack up, exchange contact info with new friends, and head to the airport. But, before you do, drop by your resort's front desk and book your next visit to Ft. Lauderdale, because this was just the tip of the iceberg of things to see and do. From mild to wild, this destination has it all! O

THE DETAILS

Sleep:

- Atlantic Hotel and Spa, 601 N Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd, (954) 567-8020 www.atlantichotelfl.com
- The Grand Resort and Spa, 539 North Birch Road, (954).630-3000, www.grandresort.net
- The Flamingo Inn Amongst the Flowers, 2727 Terramar Street, (954) 561-4658, www.theflamingoresort.com
- The Cabanas Guesthouse & Spa, 2209 N.E. 26th Street, (954) 564 -7764, www.thecabanasguesthouse.com
- Elysium Resort, 552 N. Birch Road, (954) 564-9601, www.elysiumresort.net
- Cheston House, 520 North Birch Road, (954) 566-7950, www.chestonhouse.com

Eat:

- **Johnny V Restaurant**, 625 E Las Olas Blvd, (954)761-7920, www.johnnyvlasolas.com
- **Rosie's Bar and Grill**, 2449 Wilton Drive, (954)563-0123, www.rosiesbarandgrill.com
- **Georgie's Alibi**, 2266 Wilton Drive, (954)565-2526, www.georgiesalibi.com
- **Hi Life Café**, 3000 North Federal Highway, (954)563-1395, www.hilifecafe.com
- **Trina Restaurant and Lounge**, 601 N. Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd., (954)567-8020 www.atlantichotelfl.com
- **Ocean Terrace Bar and Café**, 601 N. Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd, (954)567-8020 www.atlantichotelfl.com
- **La Bamba III**, 4245 N.Federal Hwy, (954)568-5662, www.labamba123.com

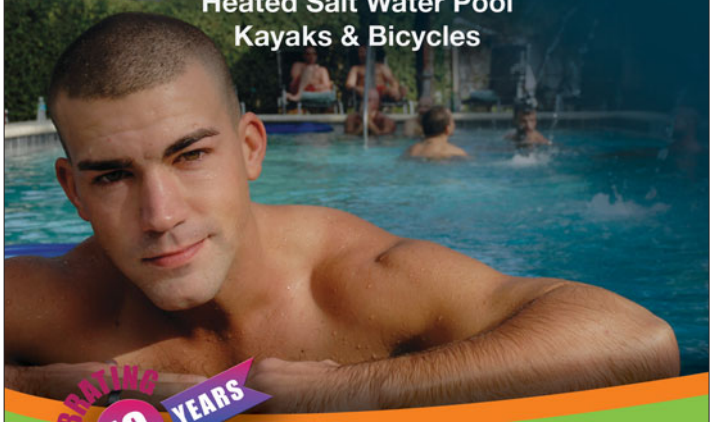
Play:

- **Billie Swamp Safari**, 30000 Gator Tail Trail, Clewiston, (863)983-6101, www.swampsafari.com
- **Sawgrass Mills**, 12801 West Sunrise Blvd., (954)846-2350 www.simon.com/mall/default.aspx?ID=1262
- **Bill's Filling Station**, 2209 Wilton Dr., (954)567-597, www. billsfillingstation.com
- **The Hamilton Gallery**, 615 E. Las Olas Blvd., (954)761-1408, www.thehamiltongallery.com
- **Museum of Art** 1 E.Las Olas Blvd., (954)525-5500, www.moaflnsu.org
- **Sidelines Sports Bar**, 2031 Wilton Dr., (954)563-8001
- **Living Room Night Club**, 300 SW 1st Ave. City, 888-992-7555, www.livingroomnightclub.com

The Cabanas GUESTHOUSE & SPA

You Travel . . . We Host

Closest To Nightlife · Clothing Optional
Full Service Spa · Steam Room
Heated Salt Water Pool
Kayaks & Bicycles



CELEBRATING 10 YEARS

local **954.564.7764**
toll-free **866.564.7764**

www.thecabanasguesthouse.com

Located in Wilton Manors The Heart of Gay Fort Lauderdale

ESCAPE CANADA'S WINTER CHILL.
ESCAPE TO FORT LAUDERDALE'S
Finest GAY GUEST HOUSE

Cheston House

Friendly Staff, Unparalleled Service,
Warm Hospitality & Heated Clothing-Free Pool.
Located on the beach in the heart
of the gay lodging district.

954-566-7950 • 1-866-566-7950 • chestonhouse.com
520 North Birch Road, Fort Lauderdale Beach, FL 33304

Elysium Resort

FORT LAUDERDALE

Paradise Awaits ...

When exciting Fort Lauderdale is your destination, your accommodations should live up to the local legends. ***The Elysium Resort, Fort Lauderdale's Largest and Friendliest Clothing-Optional Resort for Men*** is that place! Located just one block from the tropical shores of Fort Lauderdale Beach, the Elysium Resort, offers spacious studios and suites, detailed amenities, and a relaxed Florida atmosphere set amongst lush tropical foliage. Your hosts look forward to welcoming you! Paradise awaits...

Gay Owned and Operated

552 N. Birch Road
Fort Lauderdale, FL
800-533-4755 · 954-564-9601
www.ElysiumResort.net

Fort Lauderdale's Largest Gay Men's Resort • 36 Suites and Studios
180 Yards to Beach • Two Clothing Optional Pools • Oversized Jacuzzi

How to Properly Pack a Suitcase

The worst part of a vacation used to be the process of packing the suitcase. Traveling, in and of itself—especially long distance travel—can be very stressful. There are so many things to be packed like clothes, toiletries, shoes and so on. And we have all experienced that feeling of helplessness when you discover during your trip that you have forgotten to pack one or more essential items. You also want to ensure that the clothes do not get wrinkles.

All such pitfalls can be avoided.

Tip #1

Prepare a list of items that you think you have to pack in your suitcase. This will help you to arrange them in one place, well in advance, and will make packing easier for you. Another advantage is that it will serve as a checklist while packing for the return trip.

Tip #2

Clothes should ***not be individually folded***, as crease marks may appear on them while packed in the suitcase. The trick is tissue paper. Putting a layer of tissue in between your clothing greatly reduces wrinkling, as the tissue prevents the fibers of the clothing from rubbing together. Notice how clothing items purchased at higher end stores are almost always wrapped in tissue paper? Keep this paper for use when you travel, and remember to take advantage of the Christmas discounts on wrapping paper to stock up for the year.

Start by laying all of the items out, one on top of the other with tissue paper in between. For example: **Pants -** put them all together with buttons and zippers done up, with the tissue paper in between each pair. For **shirts -** lay them out with the longest sleeves on the bottom, again with tissue paper between each. Now fold all of the sleeves onto the back.

From here there are two options—rolling or square packing.

Rolling them with medium tightness will keep them crease free. You can roll up two or more of the same kind of garments together, and keep all these garments next to each other so that they stay rolled.

For "square packing", take the piles of tissue layered clothing and fold them into blocks. A single fold for the shirts, and a double-fold for the pants are best. This size "block" always works with my suitcases, but you might need to work with it until it's just right for you.

Tip #3

Keep the number of shoes and belts to a minimum to save space—this time around it is "function over fashion." Take those pairs of shoes that can match well with most of the clothing you packed. I suggest just three—good running shoes, slip on loafers, and sandals. Place the shoes at the border of the suitcase, in such a way that the soles touch the lining of the suitcase and not the clothes.

Tip #4

Pack all the essential toiletries in a leak-proof "organizer" or clear plastic bags with a zip lock.

The Gay Gastronome

Quinoa - A Superfood

Quinoa, an ancient staple of the Incas, is becoming increasingly common in North America. Not familiar? It's pronounced "keen-wah." It's a seed from South America cooked like a whole grain. It's packed with protein and cooks in half the time of whole-grain rice and barley, so you might be able to imagine why it's gaining in popularity.

Other benefits of quinoa: It's gluten-free, hypoallergenic, rich in Vitamins E, B2 and B6, as well as folic acid, biotin, potassium, copper, magnesium, calcium and iron, and it's cholesterol and trans-fat free

Beyond Beer: Wine with Mexican Food

Anyone who has traveled to Mexico knows that a cervasa (beer) tastes good with a lot of Mexican dishes. The fact is, however, what many of us think of as Mexican cuisine is really Tex-Mex food. It's simple combinations of refried beans and meat smothered in melted cheese, then doused with enough hot sauce to fool your mouth into believing you're eating something more complex.

Tex-Mex evolved in the southwestern United States. It was the creation of immigrant ranch workers who had little access to the array of chilies, vegetables, meats, and fish they had enjoyed in Mexico. And these ranch workers loved beer.

However, authentic Mexican food is every bit as complex and balanced as the great cuisines of Europe and, in most cases, is not as hot or highly seasoned.

Many gastronomes follow three guiding principles when pairing wine with authentic Mexican dishes.

1. The most successful wines are fresh and have a crisp taste with acidity. Good white choices include Sauvignon Blanc, Pinot Grigio (also known as Pinot Gris), and Albarino, a crisp, citrusy knockout from northwestern Spain that's phenomenal with green tomatillo-chili sauces. Acidity however, isn't the exclusive domain of white wines. High-acid reds include Spanish Riojas (Tempranillo grape), Italian Chiantis (Sangiovese grape), and Pinot Noir.
2. A second group includes wines with a thick and fruity feel to them. Soft, juicy Zinfandels with massive fruit flavours can be sensational with earthy red chili adobo sauces, and Shirazes and Shiraz blends from Australia, with deep berry flavours, temper the highly seasoned dishes.
3. At all cost, avoid Chardonnay. Its oaky flavour seems to compete with almost all complex Mexican flavours and you end up with a bitter tasting wine. Cabernet Sauvignon, due to its high level of tannins, is also a poor choice, as when these tannins hit the chilies, it tends to set your mouth on fire.

Avoiding Winter Weight

It's that time of year again—the time when your willpower gets challenged with holiday stress, work engagements and social gatherings. With so many parties and great cooks out there, avoiding the temptation to nibble is usually too much to ask, and weight gain is inevitable.

Here are a few tips to help keep the weight gain down:

Instead of a chocolate bar or bag of chips for your mid-afternoon snack, try a bowl of Orville Redenbacher's Smart Pop—just 100 calories per 6 cups, and it's 94 percent fat free.

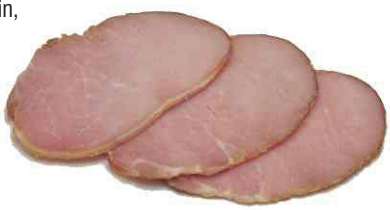
Keep healthy snacks nearby to help you avoid temptation like sugary snacks in vending machines. Saturated fats and added sugar will only make you feel more sluggish for the balance of the day.

Plan ahead: knowing what you will have for a snack in the most important step to staying fit and healthy. By planning and having healthy snacks readily available, you will be in a better position to eat healthy when you are hungry and most vulnerable to poor choices.

Canadian Bacon Trivia

Canadian bacon is made from the rib-eye of the pork loin. In the US, bacon is made from pork bellies.

Though the name may be a bit misleading, Canadian-style bacon is closer kin to ham than to regular bacon. Canadian-style bacon is fully-cooked, smoked pork loin that comes from the lean, tender eye of the loin, which is located in the middle of the back.



A Few Organic Food Facts

It wasn't that long ago when you would be hard-pressed to find a good variety of organic foods, and very few of us were paying the extra costs to add them to our grocery carts. But, lately, more and more people are switching to organic foods in the belief that the taste is superior and that these products are better for their overall health. As a result, many major supermarkets feature a much wider selection of organic products than in the past, and it's estimated that organic foods could constitute 25 percent of the world's total diet within a decade.

1. Organic Farmers need to meet strict regulations.

These regulations include:

- no use of synthetic fertilizers or pesticides;
- no use of irradiation to preserve food;
- no use of genetically engineered organisms;
- no intensive feedlots (large holding pens that are often cramped and unsanitary);
- no use of raw (and potentially highly contaminated) manure to fertilize fields; and
- livestock has to be fed only organic feed, and farmers are not allowed to give their cows, pigs, or chickens hormones or antibiotics. If the animals get sick and require antibiotics, they are no longer certifiable as organic.

To ensure that these conditions are all met, independent surveyors from the organic industry inspect organic farms yearly to make sure that farmers are adhering to the rules. When a food has been certified, it will carry labels that will verify that the products are organic.

2. The cost of organic food reflects the true cost of producing it.

Organic foods do tend to cost more for two reasons: (a) Organic farming sometimes requires expensive and labour-intensive practices, such as crop rotation and preservation of natural habitats. (b) In general, organic farmers do not receive the same government subsidies as most conventional farmers do.

3. Organic foods are healthier than conventional food.

The key to the health benefits of all things grown is the health of the soil in which it is grown in. Nutrient-rich soil and the friendly bacteria that live in that soil are taken into the food as it grows. Therefore, the foods can be much higher in nutritional value than that of conventional crops. For example, one US study found that organic food contained 63 percent more calcium, 73 percent more iron, 125 percent more potassium and 60 percent more zinc, as well as 25 percent less of the toxic element mercury. And as far as pesticides go, since organic food is grown in soil that does not have pesticides added to it, it obviously doesn't contain the same pesticide residues. Did you know that it takes about three years for pesticides to leech out of the soil before conventional farmers can switch to organic?

4. Some experts swear that organic food tastes better than other foods.

Many of the top chefs in Canada have developed menus based on fresh, locally grown organic foods, simply because it tastes great.

For example, the Delta Sun Peaks Resort Executive Chef David Tombs has developed the "Farm to Fork" program. To do this, he has formed close relationships with area farmers, including Thistle Farm, Sun River Organics and Mitchell Cattle Company. Tombs says making small lot, seasonal purchases from local producers drives creativity in his culinary team, resulting in a menu that changes every six to eight weeks, and the tastes are amazing."

So Why Not Try Some Organic Food Options...

- Apples: Organic apples are quite plentiful, so the increase in price is very minimal.
- Milk: If you have a mild intolerance to lactose, organic milk may settle better with your stomach.
- Strawberries: And a great reason to purchase organic fruits like strawberries is that non-organic strawberries are reported to receive doses of up to 500 pounds of pesticides per acre.

Top Wines in Canada...

These wine selections will save you some cash, yet still have the interest of their higher priced cousins. Use the money that you'll save on a couple of better steaks (fillets are always a favourite) to barbecue for a nice evening at home.

Use these low-priced picks to stock up your home wine cellar, since they will all age well. You can always use the cold weather as a good excuse to start/build your collection. After all—who wants to have to leave the nest just to pick up a bottle.

$19 - Gran Reserva Carmenère, 2008
El Penasco Vineyard - Carmen
Valle del Colchaua,
Valle Del Rael, Chile
www.carmen.com

Dark fruits with a good dose of mocha and espresso on the finish. The texture is creamy, very international in style—almost cabernet sauvignon in its flavour profile. Along with the Carmenère, the Gran Reserva branding also includes the Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Sauvignon Blanc and Chardonnay. All varietals are worthy of trying.

$16 Fontanafredda 2008
Peimonte Barbera Briccotondo[MH2]
Piedmont, Italy

This Barbera has been one of the most popular "Bargain Wines" for the last couple of years. Fontanafredda has done an outstanding job of making a wine with real, vibrant flavours that just jump out of the glass. They've also done an amazing job of softening Barbera's sometime forceful acidity to make this wine supremely pleasant for anyone to drink! Try it with foods from the barbecue or your favourite pasta, it is a real winner! Briccotondo Barbera offers up an eclectic mix of herbs, scented soap, yuzu and citrus fruit, leading into a concentrated, multi-layered palate. Long, cherry-infused finish.

$18 Cabernet Sauvignon

Wakefield 2008
Clare Valley, South Australia
www.wakefieldwines.com

This is a very smoky and spicy offering with bits of cedar and black olive. It is soft, with ripe blueberry/black fruit flavours and smoky vanilla and oak, with a touch of coffee chocolate in the finish. It has some cabernet firmness, but with a soothing undertone for one's palate.

$14 - Three Winds 2008 Syrah
Langeudoc, France
www.gaydavinyards.com

Red fruit and hints of spice on the nose. Plenty of structure. Soft tannins give this medium-bodied wine a classic Syrah palate. Subtle oak nuances help to smooth out the long finish. Three Winds is a brand under the Domain Gayda in Languedoc. Stile Wines on Commercial Drive in Vancouver stocks Gayda products. The wine is also available for purchase on-line directly from the vineyard.

$15 - Malbec, 2007
Famiglia Bianchi
San Rafael, Mendoza, Argentina

Malbec is one of the top varietals from Argentina. This particular wine delivers both the finesse and complexity that is generally associated with a higher price tag. Perfumed and tasty with raspberries, currants and a host of warm baking spices.

Rosé
$15 - Nine Vines Grenache Shiraz Rosé, 2010
Angove Family Winemakers
South Australia
www.angoves.com

With a glowing, bright pink colour, this wine embodies the Australian sunshine, the fun people, and recalls warm days by the beach. Vibrant raspberry, strawberry and cherry aromas intermingle with fresh fruit salad flavours and a lovely refreshing crispness on the palate. A dry finish makes this a versatile "food" wine, matching any grilled fish or meat and the juiciest tomato salad.

Under $20

~ DJ MITCHELL

$15 - Oaked Chardonnay - 2008 Founder's Estate
Beringer
North Coast, California, USA
www.beringer.com

Another good value for your wine-buying dollar. Its nose is typical California with vanilla, apple, pear, and hints of pineapple rising up from a glass. Red apples and pears return on the palate, flowing into soft notes of vanilla and oak. A highly approachable wine that's sure to please the unexpected dinner guest. Pair it with a creamy Caesar salad for extra enjoyment.

$20 - Pinot Gris 2009
Spy Valley
Wairau Valley, Marlborough,
South Island, New Zealand.
www.spyvalleywine.co.nz

This starts with a very fresh nose, with wet stone minerality, floral hints and peach. Although the cool-climate effect shows very nicely in the nose, the palate is distinctly Alsace in style, with good body, smooth, even texture, fruit carrying through the mid-palate and length. Spy Valley use partial barrel fermentation, some malolactic influences and leave a touch of residual sugar to build weight and add complexity to this delicious (food-friendly) white wine. This wine is a great pairing with meaty fish like halibut or sword fish. The inviting softness and warmth may also conjure thoughts of colder evenings and classic French onion soup.

$12 - 2009 Moschofilero
Boutari
Northern Greece
Boutari-wines.com

Boutari literally saved the Moschofilero variety from extinction by creating one of the most famous brand names on the market. The Moschofilero Boutari is well-recognized with the Moschofilero variety, and has gained international recognition as one of the most versatile wines for the international cuisines.

The attractive and intense aromas of flowers, stone fruit and sherbet are easy to like. It delivers on the palate, with a dry, quite viscous texture and just enough acidity for balance. The flavours of peach and grapefruit combine with the variety's characteristic spice and floral notes to produce a very dry, satisfying wine that lingers with a long finish.

$17 Pinot Blanc
Red Rooster - 2009
Okanagan Valley, B.C.
www.redroosterwinery.com

A classic B.C. pinot blanc, with a wonderful lemon, peach and pear aroma. The palate is balanced, with a touch of acidity through the flavours of melon and pea. A very good wine in all respects - its always reliable; always very refreshing and like the others, always affordable.

$17 - Gewürztraminer 2009
Tin Horn Creek
South Okanagan Valley, British Columbia
www.tinhorn.com

A fine nose with strong floral, spicy, lychee, peach, honey and ginger aromas. Round, slightly sweet, elegant and soft palate. Spicy sausage, ginger, honey, lychee, red apple, nectarine skin and mineral flavours. Fresher style, with some citrus rind and a long rose petal and lychee finish. This is well-balanced, with some pizzazz to accompany food.

$20 - NV Brut Rosé
Graham Beck
Western Cape, South Africa
www.grahambeck.co.za

This finely crafted creation with its charming silver-pink blush and exuberant character is a Cap Classique destined for those who appreciate a fizz with flair. Flirtatious and fun with pinprick tiny bubbles that burst gently and exhilaratingly on your tongue, it's a tingle no celebration or sunset should be without.

Pale silver-pink. Aromas of raspberries, cherries and a few secondary whiffs of minerality. A lively mousse, but fine in the mouth, with subtle red berry flavours enlivened by bright acids. Brisk on the palate, showing hints of oyster shell and fresh lavender. Flirtatious and fun, yet elegant and structured, it's perfect for all seasons and settings.

Tastes of Canada

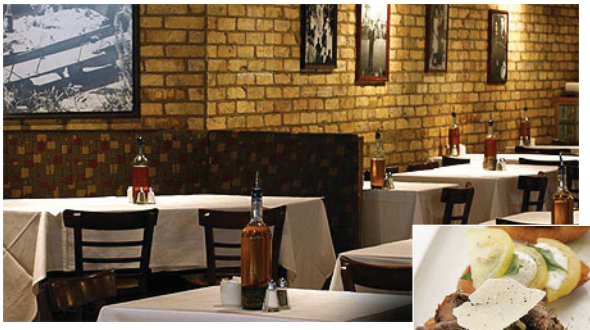
Fusion Grill $$$

550 Academy Road, Winnipeg,
www.fusiongrill.mb.ca

Fusion is a fun place serving up some of Winnipeg's best nontraditional cuisine. This is a premier restaurant serving original prairie cuisine focusing on quality fresh food and produce.

One of the treats on the menu is the upscale perogies. Drizzled with white truffle oil over a walnut cream sauce and topped with slivers of duck sausage. A bit of a departure from your typical potato stuffing slathered with onions and sour cream. Another tantalizing starter includes crispy tiger prawn dumplings with garlic-sesame noodles and sweet soy dipping sauce. The grilled grass-fed beef with Cabernet infused demi-glace, frizzled leeks, pickled asparagus aioli and celeriac potato gratin with smoked Gouda is a bouquet of flavours.

The entrees change daily so there's always a new experience in store. Fusion Grill is a fantastic and exciting place — prepared to be wowed.



Il Fornello - Entertainment District $$

214 King St. W, Toronto
www.ilfornello.com

It was a pity that the Church Street location in Toronto closed its doors last year. Good news is that there are eight other locations around the GTA so that you can still enjoy their great pies.

For a nosh prior to seeing Priscilla—check out Il Fornello in the Entertainment District. It's an easy walking distance to either the Royal Alex or the Pincess of Wales theatres.

Their signature thin crust spizza would have to be the Gorgonzola, Pear and Walnut. We also tried out the Mushroom pizza with roasted fennel seeds. The slight licorice flavouring of the fennel is a perfect match to the mushroom and cheese of the pizza. The menu also has a full selection of starters, pastas and indulgent desserts.

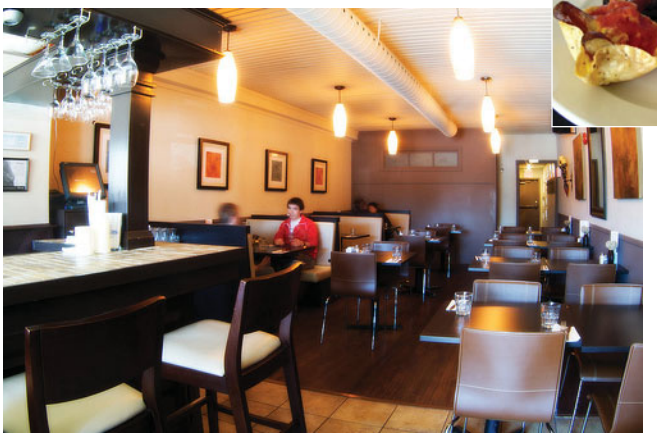
Next month—I promise not to talk about pizza!

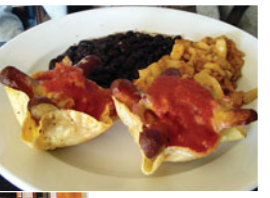
Agave Grill $$

1331 Wellington St., Ottawa
www.agaveottawa.ca

We went to the Agave Grill, on a recent trip to Ottawa, to celebrate the 50th birthday of my university crush. His wife invited me to the party. Oh well, so much for misplaced youth.

The Agave Grill boasts the best Margaritas in town. It took several tries to decide—but I think I'd have to agree. We started our evening with a platter of nachos stacked with cheese and jalapenos—a great accompaniment to the beverages mentioned above. All the typical dishes are available, empanadas, burritos, and chimichangas. You may have to resort to the ever popular combo plate if you just can't make up your mind. For those who can't get enough of the Mexican flavour—the generous portions at Agave won't leave you looking for more.





Chefs-on-Board - Janice Robillard

For Janice, cooking has always been one adventure after another…and the latest adventure, with the help of her sister Shelly, is **The Anchor Pub** and **Sage Catering** in Sicamous, BC.

It all began with a lie when Janice answered an ad for a camp cook while travelling in Australia. The position wasn't for that of a chef, but rather a camp cook for a remote Australian cattle station. "It really was literally a trial by fire as I only had a fire pit to cook on!" But soon she was producing breads and goodies to make sure that the lads were well fed. "I had a blast both traveling and cooking—both passions that are still a constant in my life."

The adventure continued in Canada where Janice worked in a remarkably broad range of environments working extensively in movie location catering, high end fishing lodges and charters, geologic camps in the high arctic as well as corporate and event catering in both Vancouver and Edmonton.

"As a self taught chef I have been very lucky over the years that my work has been so varied. Each new adventure required constant innovation and I have always been blessed with lots of room to experiment and introduce people to new flavours and textures"

Janice has worked and traveled across the globe—Europe, Asia, India, Australia and most recently a month long visit to Turkey. "I love incorporating my travels into my recipes, for example we are hosting a Turkish night this month where I get to use the spices I bought at the bazaars in Istanbul."

The Anchor, is a smart little dining establishment nestled along the channel that separates Mara Lake and Shuswap Lake right at the Twin Anchors Houseboat dock. With two large decks and some nicely shaded areas, it is a wonderful place to enjoy an amazing salad or a house-made veggie burger while watching the houseboats go by. And if you don't want to eat in, **Sage Catering** will bring the meal to you. "Catering in the Shuswap is so unique we could be catering on a houseboat with our Chef on Board service, or a beach, or lugging gear down 200 feet of train tracks and through the bush to a secluded private event ."

Black Bean, Tortilla Soup

2 tsp olive oil
2 medium onions, chopped
3 cloves garlic, minced
3 tsp chili powder
3 tsp cumin
1 can (796ml) stewed tomatoes
2 cups chicken stock
1 can (540 ml)black beans, drained and rinsed
1 and 1/2 cups corn kernels
2 tsp coarsely chopped packed fresh cilantro

In large heavy saucepan, heat oil over medium heat, cook onions, chili powder, garlic and cumin, stirring often, for 5 to 8 minutes until tender.

Coarsely chop tomatoes, add to onions along with stock, black beans and corn, simmer stirring often, for 10 minutes or until thickened. Stir in cilantro.

Toppings:
Cheddar cheese
Shredded chicken
Sour cream (optional)
fresh cilantro
lime wedges
Crisp fried tortilla chips

Serves 6 - about 1 and 1/3 cups each. Make ahead, cover and refrigerate for up to 4 days.

Quick Looks

thestyleguys@outlooks.ca

YouTube Co-Founder's Fashionable Future

Chad Hurley, co-founder and CEO of YouTube, has taken some of his Google money and bet on Hlaska, a men's clothing line he's been working with since 2004. The all-American made line currently has three stores in California, with plans to open locations in every major American city in the next two years. Until then, we can also shop online www.hlaska.com.

Hurley told Forbes, "We're trying to do something here at Hlaska that hasn't been done since Levi Strauss filled a void and remained true to its roots. We admire great designers like Paul Smith and domestic companies like American Apparel, but in the end we're doing this because we want to bring back American production and build off that to grow."

Not Sure What to Wear? There's an App for That

Trendshop Trendtracker: Let's you keep track of the latest runway looks, fashion news, trend ideas and inspiration. This free app shows coverage of fashion shows from New York, London, Milan and Paris, as well as show schedules and event guides.

Shopstyle: This app offers shopping right from your smartphone from retailers like Nordstrom, Pottery Barn, even Prada and rag & bone. This app is true fashion crack.

Style.com: Get the latest in men's and women's style videos, fashion shows and parties from one of the world's most trusted fashion sources. This app also let's you vote on the "look of the day" and email posts from the style.com blog.

NIKEID: When an off-the-rack pair of kicks won't do, build your own. NIKEID allows you to search colour combinations and add your own ID or graphics to a pair of Nikes, then have them delivered to your door. Not the best at colour matching? You can also upload your own photo and the PhotoID will create the perfect colour combination for your new sneaks.

2011 Mens' Fashion Forecast

According to TrendShop.com, here's a look at some of the trends we'll be seeing (and wearing) in 2011:

Highlighter Colours: Brighten your brights next year with acidic oranges, pinks, turquoise and greens.

Hedonist Florals: From loud prints to graphic tees, it's time to show your flower power.

Floral Camouflage: Disguised florals embrace femininity, but trick the eye into thinking you're actually a tough guy.

Suede: A key trend for S/S 2011, lightweight and soft versions of sandy suede will be everywhere.

Gingham: Has it ever NOT been in style? Next year, mix it up with paisley prints, checks and stripes.

Arte De Muebles

When most people think of graffiti they think of alleys, trains, and old, run-down buildings. What if you were to throw Ming Dynasty furniture into the mix?A little strange? Perhaps! But that's what makes this unique furniture and art pairing the most fabulous thing in design at the moment.

DaDe Art and Design Lab has partnered with famed Calgary-based graffiti artist David Brunning(in collaboration with yours truly) to create one of a kindstorage bliss."Arte De Muebles" is truly where art meets design. The show is now running at Calgary's Dade Gallery and there the cabinets are all limited editions so be sure to get your hands on them before they are gone.

1327 9th Avenue SE
Calgary, AB
403.454.0243
www.dadegallery.com

Photos: Jen Hall, jenhallphoto.com

Peking Lounge

Owners Michael Bennett and Daniel Poulin opened its doors in February of 2003. Located in Historic Chinatown in Vancouver, this place is hard to miss. The windows are always merchandised so well and the interior is just as much of a treat. Since their first trip to Beijing, they were hooked on the rich culture, history and the city's sharp contrasts. Making several trips every year back to their favorite haunts in China, they are bringing back the hottest on trend pieces when it comes to eclectic décor.

The store is filled with traditional treasures with modern twists. That is what they are all about, a mix of old and new. You will see stunning Ming style cabinets painted high gloss white, stone statues of Buddhas and deities and of course, rich textiles from silks to linens. A store that offers something for everyone, it is hard to leave empty handed. I always say that incorporating a piece from your travels is a must in any well designed home, this way, making a stop at Peking Lounge, the travel is done for you.

83 East Pender Street
Vancouver, BC
604.844.1559
PekingLounge@telus.net

Mint Interiors

Opening its doors in October in the newest shopping area in Vancouver, The Armoury District, Mint Interiors is an innovative home furnishings company that is filled with distinctive pieces like tables that echo the animal world, Italian modernist cuckoo clocks, glass lamps by Les Heritiers, and textiles from Aviva Stanoff.

I heard of MINT when attending IDSWest, a design show based in Vancouver and fell in love! Rien Sharma, Co-owner of MINT Interiors with Michael McNamara, states, "The Armoury District emerged as a cutting edge design area after the recession in 2009, when several vacant storefronts opened up beside East India Carpets on 2nd Avenue between Fir and Pine. Now there are over 10 shops in the district offering a fantastic array of items for the home."

1805 Fir Street
Vancouver, BC
(604) 710-0674
design@mintinteriors.ca

WINTER WHITE

The thought of cold days and white-out winter conditions often make us dread old man winter. However, with the onset of snowy days and frigid temperatures comes the introduction of an all white themed decor. Taking inspiration from the snow, these cool home accents will be keeping you chic and stylish in the chilly days ahead. Pair these all white pieces with bold, citrusy colours to create some drama and brightness in your home.

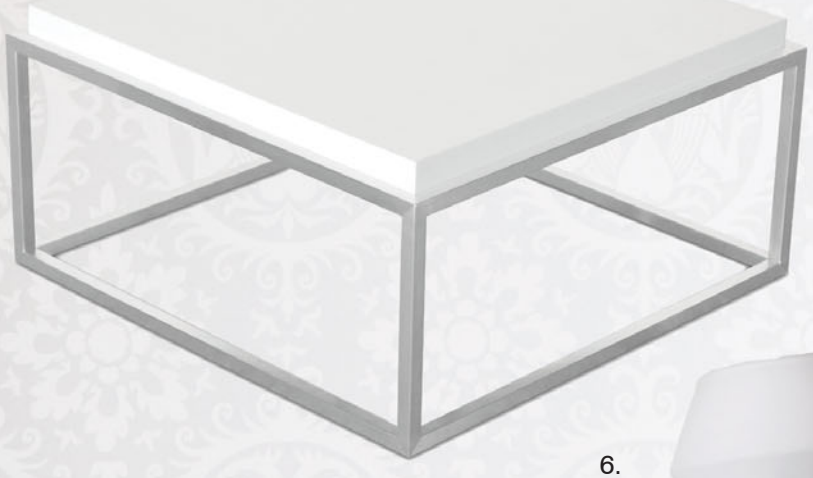
Sources:
Modern Karibou, www.modernkaribou.ca
Dutch Green Design, www.dutchgreendesign.ca

1.

2.

3.

4.



1. Avenue First Block - White by Fatboy
2. Delano Chair - White Leather by Gus* Modern
3. Bozza Bowl – White by Kahler
4. Drake Coffee Table - White Lacquer by Gus* Modern
5. James Lounge - Vinyl Snow by Gus* Modern
6. Cupstack Lamp by OFFI

6.

5.

1.

2.

1. Mag Table - White by OFFI
2. Zig Zig Lamp by OFFI
3. 1.5R Radio/alarm for iPod &
4. iPhone - Piano White by Vers
5. Scando Table - White by OFFI
6. Dutch Green Design

3.

4.

5.

6.

Massimo Rossetti

TECH SUPPORT

We are all guilty of choosing style over function from time to time; but, when it comes to our harsh winters there's nothing stylish about (literally) being left in the cold. Meet Parajumpers, one of our favourite jackets for winter. Not only does this jacket meet all the demands, it's got a great back-story.

Massimo Rossetti, lead designer for the Italian brand, was inspired to create the line after a road trip on his Harley Davidson to Alaska. One night in an Anchorage bar, he met members of the elite US Parajumpers troop and was smitten by their story and their uniforms.

Also known as para-rescuemen or the United States Special Operatives Command, parajumpers are specially trained in personal recovery missions in harsh environments. From saving mountain climbers trapped by a storm to fishing astronauts out of the ocean after water landings, Rossetti believed these Special Forces troops epitomized bravery and confidence.

Rossetti, a renaissance man, has travelled the world for the last 35 years, and designed sportswear for famous luxury brands like Ferré, Canali and Converse All Stars, to name a few.

Ranging from $695-$995, the jackets are made with goose down, making them lightweight and warm. Styles vary; but many have removable lining, hook and clasp details, and lots of reinforced pockets—perfect for a small parachute or an iPod (so that you can pick your battles of the day).

Michael Ryan, Parajumpers marketing manager describes them as, "The perfect city jacket, or great for an après-ski." Parajumpers jackets and sweaters are available at Harry Rosen stores across Canada.

Suitably Tailored

perfect ensembles for the holidays

Photographed by Colin Way
Art Direction by Len Mastaler
Styled by Kat Langille

Krissvanassche suit
Krissvanassche shirt
Raf sweater

Allessandro dell'acqua blazer
Alexander McQueen shirt
Alexander McQueen pants
Allessandro dell'acqua tie and pocket square

Vivienne Westwood suit
Vivienne Westwood shirt
Diesel Cardigan
Tailored Max tie

Artistic Team:
Styling: Kat Langille @ I Model Artists
Hair and Makeup: Kelly @ I Model Artists
Model: Cliff @ I Model Management
www.imodelmanagement.ca

All clothing by Firoz off 17th Ave., Calgary, Alberta

Photographed by Colin Way (colinway.com) exclusively for OUTLOOKS on location at Le Germain Hotel. A special thanks to Carrie Larose, Mark Schaay and all the hotel staff for their kindness and cooperation.

Diesel shirt
Vivienne Westwood vest
Vivienne Westwood tie
John Varvatos coat
Alexander McQueen pants
Emporio Armani shoes

Shavings from My Head

~ J. CORBETT HOLMES

I See Bed People

After intimately "making" your bed-fellow...should you lie in it or face the morning after-effects?

I was pulling. He was pulling. I began to grunt. His breathing grew heavy. Tiny beads of sweat began to form on my shaved head. A trail of perspiration became obvious—saturating his t-shirt—before disappearing into the waistband of his shorts. Eventually, I grew exhausted and had to quit. He kept going. His pulls were long, determined strokes. At the end of each heave, he would release his spine back into an upright position, finishing it off with a considerable groan. We were so close to each other, that as I hung—stretching my torso—from the pole above us, I could feel his breath on the back of my legs. The whole scenario sounds incredibly hot: two guys worked into a sweat, breathing heavily and grunting as they ardently pulled away—made all the more sizzling because cables were involved? Perhaps. But…No—he wasn't the hunky cable man we all fantasize about. And no—we weren't engaged in some elaborate bondage scenario. We were side by side on the cable machine at the gym. I, doing a shoulder exercise and somewhat distracted by our situation, while he feverishly hauled his way toward a broader back—thinking who knows what.

Anyone observing our circumstances would effortlessly deduce that we were complete strangers; just two guys going through their workout. But, as far as I was concerned, the man beside me was uncomfortably close. And, as he continued feverishly pulling away on the opposite cable, a dead feeling overtook my being—as if I'd been cast in the starring role in a zombie film.

In terms of the gym space, he was within a socially acceptable distance. So, why was his proximity making me feel as if he were smothering me with a pillow? Because we'd been much closer before—slept-together closer! But, because of our past, I played along, reclaiming my (now reoccurring) role as his dead-bed zombie star. This was not the first time I'd died. I'd already been dead to him for several years. The first time I saw him—a week after we'd slept together—my face was bright and welcoming. We both knew—or so I thought—that our drunken interlude would advance no higher than the climax of the moment. Yet, because of the naked intimacy of our encounter, I figured a cordial hello in passing would transpire. Not! Instead, he chose to simply pass, sans hello, wearing a blank, detached expression akin to the walking dead in zombie-themed horror films. Thus, I entered the after-sex life—joining the countless men, buried alive by those I now refer to as "Bed People."

This Bed People "condition" (BP) is, thankfully, something I've encountered only once before. But, you all know what I'm talking about! For years now, I've digested countless stories of trysts with a BP twist—

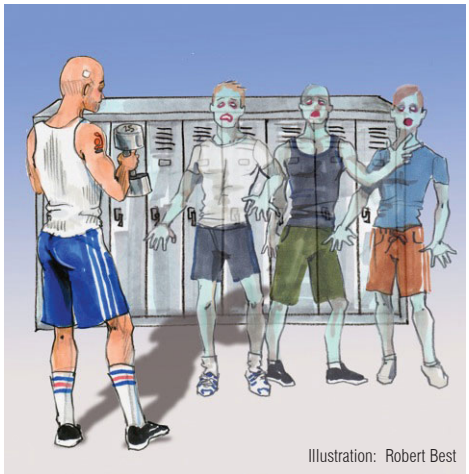


Illustration: Robert Best

morning after amnesia from sexual interludes. And I regret to report that it appears that BP are rampant in the gay community! Everyone I petitioned had at least one BP story!

So—do you see Bed People like I do? Has one of these heavenly bodies inhabited your bedroom, then made you invisible the next time you crossed his path? Does that bed-you-then-dead-you guy, who once lusted after you, now look the other way or cross the street to avoid you?

At times, it seems that this post-hook-up horror can start off rather hopeful: a knowing wave from across the street/gym/bar/party. But, eventually, BP inhabits his being,degenerating his condition into what one friend likes to call "sexual amnesia." Another acquaintance recounts sleeping with someone several years ago. Now, after numerous years have elapsed (since his allocated bed death), he's been reincarnated. His blinded bedfellow has (apparently) recovered from his bout of BP and considers my friend a fresh new prospect—diligently recruising him at every opportunity! Then there are the Double-Bed People: the married ones. They have it the worst—suffering from both pre- and post-party amnesia: First forgetting their boyfriend before bedding you, then forgetting about you afterward. And, from what I've been told, there appears to be a serious outbreak of DBP. But, here's my favourite example: While out walking with a friend who spotted a past bed-buddy, the B-B saw him/us approaching. To avoid a post-conquest conversation, he abruptly morphed into a BP and acquired a focused interest on the nearest store window. It was Victoria's Secret! Oops. Once my friend overcame his status as deceased, he laughed death in the face; but it had an afterlife in my thoughts.

So, while I seeped in my own bed-death, again, I thought about why basic considerations like acknowledgement passed away after we'd been to bed. I never called. But neither did he. Years have elapsed since I entered his after-sex life, and I suppose the reasons are buried or forgotten. But, as we puffed and pulled at the gym, the situation was still eating me alive! I just couldn't seem to get past our intimate past. Why, I wondered? Because, unlike friendships or business alliances, with "Bed People" there is something more: intimacy-our shared secretive desires, our unguarded yearning, and our naked truths revealed.

I once read an article where the word intimacy was broken down = In-to-me-see. And I wanted to remind him that we had both been naked and exposed—pulling back our "covers"—that we had both revealed our physical and emotional flaws, needs, fears and desires. But, have you ever tried talking to the dead?

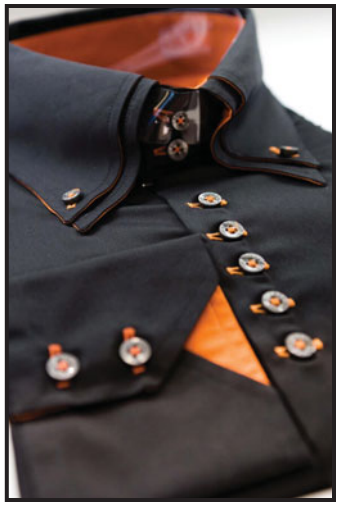
Eventually, my BP moved on to another machine, but something had changed for me. After thinking so much about the whole thing, I wondered: Was it the fear of rejection that inhabited the post-party-pretend-I-don't-know-you syndrome or "BP" my cable guy had acquired? Perhaps, if he pretends not to see me—after I've seen him fully exposed—then our sexual interlude will be swept under the bed, along with his insecurities?

Suddenly, I felt more alive and overcome with compassion instead of frustration, even if I was still dead.

Throughout our lives, in various ways, we "get into bed" with a myriad of people, whether it be for business or pleasure—further developing ourselves through these alliances. They are a necessary part of life. And with these new associations comes a myriad of effects, including a certain amount of risk. Even writing about such grave circumstances—admitting that I have been a drop-dead bedfellow—subjects me to further risk and (possibly) ridicule. But, the way I see it, it's better to be part of the living, better to get up on the right side of the bed, and better to converse after sex. So the next time you step out of bed, throw off your covers and say hello. There may be more to the after-sex life than you think. O

For a closer shave—blog postings and previously published columns—visit www.shavingsfrommyhead.com.

SHAVINGS FROM MY HEAD

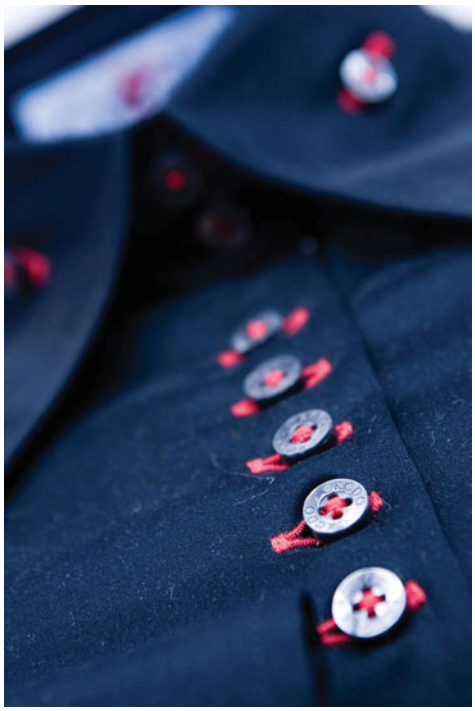


TORONTO'S Hidden Gem

Hidden deep in Yorkville—on a block where two addresses are the same, a pharmacy and this gem, you will find **Credo**—a high-end men's and women's shirt and accessory boutique from Spain. Credo was established in Barcelona six years ago and has opened several other boutiques in Madrid, Palma and Valencia—and now Toronto.

One-of-a kind and amazing, the Credo shirt celebrates the uniqueness of its origin and the people who proudly wear it. Showcasing the best in hand-picked Italian fabric and hand-crafted with the greatest detail in Spain. Credo defines the art of dressing with style, flair and elegance! Credo means "Faith" in Spanish, which defines the boutique and its essence of inclusion.

The Credo shirt was designed with the intention of creating a shirt to complement the way people live. The Credo customer appreciates quality products, food and wine, culture, fine cars, and traveling. Needless to say, Credo has designed a fashion line that fits into this lifestyle. Hmm, sounds like a large number of gay men I know.



There is an exquisite Credo shirt for every occasion and every mood. Regardless of whether you wear a one-collar, two-collar or three-collar shirt, you are bound to make a statement wherever you go. The quality of the material alone, not to mention the design of the collars, unique buttons, and contrasting colours, make this shirt a great addition to a fashionable wardrobe.

Credo is one of the most sophisticated, exclusive lines to enter the Canadian shirt market in years.

Credo Toronto is located on the upper level of 114 Cumberland Street in Toronto's trendy Yorkville district. And, like I said, it is the company's only boutique in North America, so it is a definite stop to add to your plans with your next Toronto visit.

FRAMED

~ TODD WHITE

Born in 1969 in Texas, Todd White came from humble roots. During his twenties, he took an opportunity and relocated to Hollywood, where one of his key career spells came in the field of animation. Through character development at some of the most renowned production studios, he began to forge his own artistic style, and became part of the lead design and animation team for the international hit cartoon series ***SpongeBob SquarePants***.

During this period, White experimented with both style and concept, eventually arriving at a process that now guides him through every piece. Until White can conceptually see the story in his head, he won't paint. He always names his pieces first, visualizes faces and personalities and then develops each person's story.

We experience the subjects in White's work every day; but, because his perspective is so unusual, he alters the way we perceive the people we encounter and the roles we play around each other. He studies body language, utilizing the nuances of his source material to capture the subtleties of what one shows and what one hides.

He was chosen from hundreds of artists as the ***Official Artist of the GRAMMY® Awards*** in 2007 and in 2009. Todd was invited by Warner Bros. to contribute to a major design exhibition celebrating the ***70th Anniversary of The Wizard of Oz***.

Most recently Todd has been commissioned by ***Coco-cola Ltd.*** to design a series of images to be released on bottles in 2011.

Following a string of record-breaking shows in the UK, Todd returned to the US to even greater acclaim, and has since become one of the most sought after and successful living artists in the world.

Page 1 - left to right:

Night at Nic's 20” x 20”
Bar Code 20” x 30”

Page 2 - clockwise from upper left:

All Lit Up Again 18” x 22.5”
Roadhouse 38” x 28”.
Piano Bar 38” x 32”
Girl Party 16” x 32”

Originals and Limited Editions:
The Hamilton Gallery
Fort Lauderdale, Florida
www.TheHamiltonGallery.com | www.hamiltonart.com

Forever Young

Nelly Furtado reveals the gay inspiration behind "Night Is Young," the first single from her new best-of retrospective, and speaks out against anti-gay bullying.

Photo: Richard Bernardin

When it comes to flirting with musical styles, Nelly Furtado has been a promiscuous girl since her 2000 debut, Whoa, Nelly! Filling the gap between last year's Spanish-language record, Mi Plan, and the upcoming release of her fifth original album, Lifestyle, the Portuguese-Canadian Grammy winner now celebrates a decade of sonic exploration on The Best of Nelly Furtado, which dropped November 16 on Geffen Records. As she continues to foster her long-standing connection to gay fans, Furtado, 31, explains how "Night Is Young," her latest single and one of three new songs on the compilation, was inspired by her gay best friend.

Greatest hits CDs sometimes come out near the end of an artist's career, but your new single, "Night Is Young," seems to send a message that you've only begun to entertain us. Does it feel like you're just getting starting?

Yeah, it's definitely more of a celebration than a moratorium. I've learned a whole lot through all of my musical experiences and collaborations over the last ten years, and I'm going into the next decade with a new awareness of what I love about making music. My Spanish album reinvigorated my connection with the fans, who were so enthusiastic; so it made me fall in love with the business all over again. It also felt like I broke up with English for a couple of years, so it's almost as though I've gotten back together with an ex-boyfriend-and it's better the second time around!

Musically speaking, where does your passion lie today?

I've experimented with all kinds of things; but now I'm comfortable in my own skin, so I'm not afraid to show my true colours-good, bad, and ugly. I never would've put out "Night Is Young" in 2001 because I would've said, "This song's not cool because it's way too catchy." Now I'm like, "Yeah, this song is catchy! Let's put it out!"

"Night Is Young" was co-produced by Salaam Remi and Staybent Krunk-A-Delic. Was it your goal to write a nightlife party anthem?

"Night Is Young" is less about going out to the clubs and more about going out into the world; but it translates so well to a dance floor. "Night Is Young" is actually about my gay best friend, a very successful modern dancer and choreographer, and it came out of a conversation we had. It was a beautiful day, the sun was shining, and we felt like we had the whole world ahead of us. We were reflecting on our achievements and our struggles—it was really inspiring. He heard the song for the first time when he came by the video shoot. He said, "Finally, a song about me! It's a total gay anthem."

Did you include gay folks in the video?

Are you kidding? We had all kinds of crazy-awesome dancers. The song is about being yourself and feeling good in your skin. I recently performed at a PFLAG event, and it felt so great to sing that song there.

When did you first become aware of your gay following?

When I was touring with Whoa, Nelly! Whenever I would play "Shit on the Radio," I'd see young gay couples holding each other, crying, and just getting very emotional. It hit me that they gravitated to the themes in my music of individuality, identity, and self-expression, so that actually helped define me as a musician. My gay audience has always been a huge inspiration to me. My music is all about letting your flag wave high and proud, no matter what that flag is.

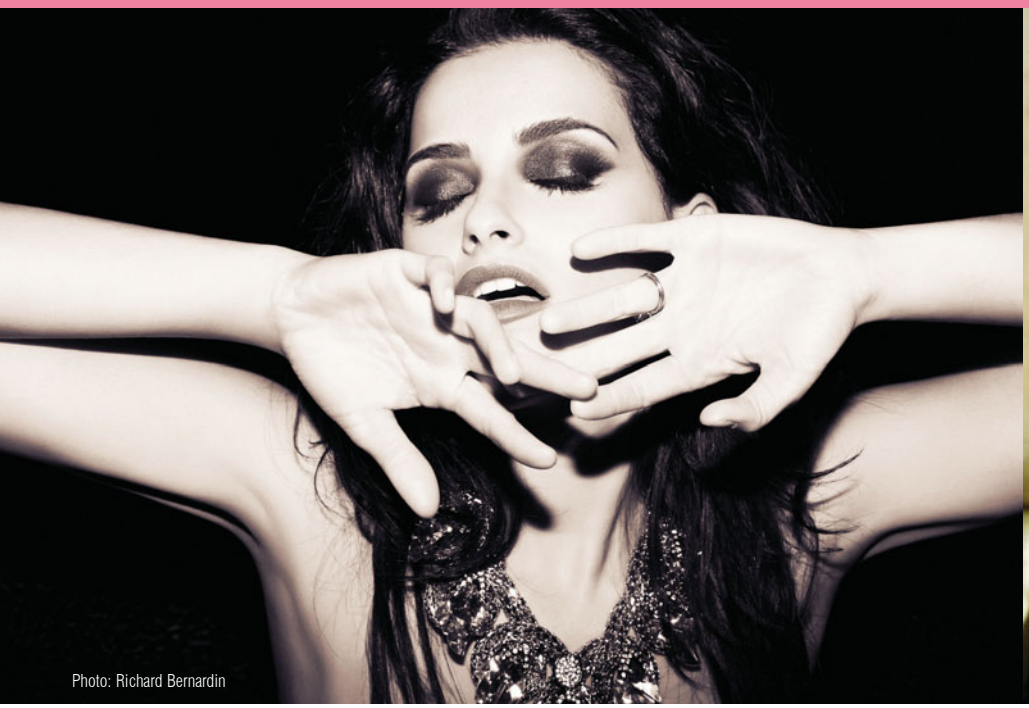


Photo: Richard Bernardin

In response to the recent rash of gay teen suicides, what's your message for the young men and women dealing with anti-gay bullying?

Nothing makes me more brokenhearted than seeing people who feel they can't be themselves. It's such a crime. God, it's so hard and horrible to be a teenager, and the virtual way young people communicate nowadays makes them feel even more disconnected. My advice is to reach out and find somebody that you can relate to, because human interaction can heal those wounds. Growing up in a small town, I felt like an alien with dreams, goals, and no idea how to make it all happen; but finding a kinship with other musicians got me through it. It's important to know that you're not alone.

As a mother, how do you instill values of unbiased love and acceptance in your daughter, Nevis?

You have to start from day one and be vigilant. You have to shield your child from negativity, and correct them when people say things that are incorrect. You have to normalize the reality of the world, because we all come from the same place, and we're all in this together. I'm proud to live in Canada, a country that supports gay marriage, because I can speak openly about it to my child. I don't mean to brag, because I wish it were everybody's scenario.

At seven, she understands what it means to be gay?

Yeah, for sure. Children shouldn't be raised in a bubble. There's nothing wrong with it, so why wouldn't I treat it as normal?

Your Twitter followers can read about other artists who inspire you, like Robyn, Rufus Wainwright, and Adam Lambert. Has your daughter turned you on to any teen pop stars like Justin Bieber?

She's been exposed to lots of different styles since she was a baby, so she's into some cool stuff. I play her Janelle Monáe in the car and she really loves it. She hasn't seen the movie; but she also loves the Twilight soundtrack. She does like a few Justin Bieber songs, because, you know, he actually makes pretty good music.

You've caught Bieber fever?

I have found myself swooning over a few of his songs-when no one's looking! O

Nelly Furtado "The Best of Nelly Furtado" was released Nov 16.

www.nellyfurtado.com

All Aboard Priscilla

Australian stage icon Tony Sheldon shows off his own set of "Lolly Legs" in the Broadway-bound Priscilla: Queen of the Desert - The Musical

If the international box-office success of *Mamma Mia!* is any testament to today's thirst for feel-good, sing-a-long musicals, the Broadway-bound adaptation of the cult film *Priscilla: Queen of the Desert*—currently playing at Toronto's Princess of Wales—should do more than please that palette.

Toronto's Mirvish production, fresh from its Australian and West End runs, is (fortunately for us) the last pre-Broadway test drive city of the bus named "Priscilla" before it parks itself in the Big Apple this February. One of the show's only central cast members since it began five years ago, Australian stage star Tony Sheldon (Bernadette) mentions that the show's non-original music wasn't always the plan.

"In the beginning workshops, there was some discussion about original music," notes Sheldon. "But so many of the show's songs are attached to the film, and when you add in the drag performance and lyp-synch that goes with it, there's a whole other layer to it than being just another Jukebox musical. I think the feeling was, if the audience wants this, why try to experiment with music that just might close the show in twelve weeks, when we already have what people want to hear?"

Because ABBA's music continues to make the rounds in *Mamma Mia!*, it may be the only void in *Priscilla's* eclectic reprisals from the film. With close to 30 producers involved in the production (including our Divine Miss M., Bette Midler), almost every other song on the film soundtrack is secured here, along with the culturally adapted, ABBA replacements of Kylie Minogue in the Australian and West-End productions and the Madge-magic of Madonna on North American soil.

"Of course, the show continues to evolve in all areas," adds Sheldon, "and we're simply trying to make it the best it can be. We've already shaved fifteen minutes off, and the storyline around Tick and his son has been strengthened. The changes keep it fascinating for me—I love that I'm not always walking into a cookie-cut production."

It's not the first time that the out Sheldon has worn a dress, but as the son of "Lolly Legs" Australian stage diva Tony Lamond, we're able to share a few laughs when I unofficially crown him "Lolly Legs Junior" for his current role. Sheldon indirectly credits his "Bernadette" discovery to "that damn Chrysler Building dress!" he wore in Australia's *The Producers*, earning him Helpmann, Mo and Sydney Theatre Awards as Best Supporting Actor. But when you're wearing "sure-to-win-a-Tony!" costumes, by the same designers that earned the Oscar for the film no less, every hem can compete with the actor wearing them.

"We know, ultimately, that we are the vehicles for the costumes," Sheldon smiles, "but we also know our place."

Reimagining a role so well-executed by Terence Stamp in the film has been a bigger challenge for Sheldon than the show's endless supply of costume designs. Deciding against the original Terence Stamp costumes from the film, Sheldon's "Bernadette" was given a more Rita Hayworth, 1940s look that better suits his own interpretation of the transgendered, older prima donna.

"I deliberately didn't look at the film," says Sheldon, "but I remembered his [Stamp's] interpretation as a bit serious and gloomy—I felt that I knew the character in a different way. I grew up around those tits-and-feathers drag girls in the 1960s—hanging out with sailors, drinking champagne and living the high life—with no reason to be gloomy. To me 'Bernadette,' although a widow and looking for love, is so much more rounded and fulfilled at this point in her life, and that's what gives her so much courage."

Stamp, flown in for the Australian premiere of *Priscilla*, has given Sheldon more

than his seal of approval. The pair first met at its after-party with a huge embrace, albeit in passing. As Sheldon mentions, it was Stamp's sudden, low-key appearance at a matinee shortly thereafter that reassured his choices.

"He was absolutely charming," describes Sheldon. "At first I don't think he knew what he was coming to see, and was a bit shocked by it. I mean, this is a really important role to him, he even danced around with Bill Clinton and Colin Powell one time to "I Will Survive" after Clinton told him it was his favourite film. When he showed up to the matinee unannounced, he sort of appeared in my dressing room, when I wasn't really able to stay and talk much. And when he just stood and looked at me, I saw in his eyes that he was sort of letting go of the role and handing it over to me. We had a big hug."

A four-decade theatre veteran of "the biz," Sheldon is the grandson of vaudeville stars, still writes for and alongside his mother Lamond, and is nephew to 1970s icon Helen Reddy. Having been weaned on cabaret, burlesque, TV specials and life down under and above, he deliberately chose to keep his career in Melbourne and Sydney, and it's the first time he'll hit the Broadway stage with *Priscilla*.

"Broadway was something I thought about when I was younger," Sheldon admits, "but someone had to keep my mother's torch burning in Australia."

Losing father Frank Sheldon to suicide at an early age, son Tony has certainly experienced the underbelly of show biz and its relationships enough to embrace a role like "Bernadette." Growing up gay, Sheldon found that solace in theatre, and played his first gay role at aged 17 in *A Hard God*—a war-era, coming-of-age play about two teenage boys that's now a classic in contemporary Australian theatre. A successful one-year run of the Australian *Torch Song Trilogy* contributed to that array of colourful roles. On that note, he recently teamed up with the *Priscilla* cast for the "It Gets Better" campaign to combat bullying, with an "I Will Survive" video of testimonials that, like others from the campaign, can be seen on YouTube.

"Suicide and bullying and homophobia are nothing new to me," says Sheldon, "but these [recently reported] suicides and Dan Savage's brilliant campaign is almost accidentally topical when it comes to this show, and we've encouraged people to get involved."

In a production where "F**k off Faggots" is sprawled across a bus, the influence of this cast and crew on combatting homophobia is more than significant. Judging from Toronto's opening night (a heavy mix of tourists, celebrities and gay men), Toronto's queer community has more than shown its support, while some gay critics, Sheldon notes, have had a harder time accepting *Priscilla's* perhaps more aseptic new image as musical entertainment.

"Of course, we've made compromises," says Sheldon, "but some of the language is still close to the knuckle, and the production still has that rough edge. This isn't the established couple of Le Cage in their home of Saint-Tropez, all wonderful and we all love them. We're talking about a bunch of people who get bashed the minute they leave the house."

As Sheldon and I chat more about the understudy costumes for the show most audiences haven't even seen yet, it's hard not to talk about the now-famous gold American Express credit card dress worn by *Priscilla* designer Lizzy Gardiner at the Oscars. Created for the original film, the dress was first forbidden by American Express, until the designers were given the Oscar nod. Egg on your face, Amex. Once told that Canadian audiences would be conservative, Sheldon admits he was a bit shocked to find them as uproarious as the rest of the audiences in the Commonwealth.

Now bound for Broadway, he's excited to soon get a visit from his own life partner of 31 years.

"Is your partner anything like your onstage romantic character Bob?" I ask.

"You can ask him, but I think he'd identify more as the Ping Pong lady," Sheldon laughs.

Priscilla: Queen of the Desert - The Musical runs until January 2 in Toronto and opens on Broadway on February 28. O

Visit ***priscillamusical.com*** *for more information and showtimes.*

VANCOUVER Out & about

Halloween at Junction

Halloween at PumpJack

Dollicious
November 10 at Celebrities

Jujubee

Prairie Fairy Fowl Supper
October 16 at Greek Cultural Centre

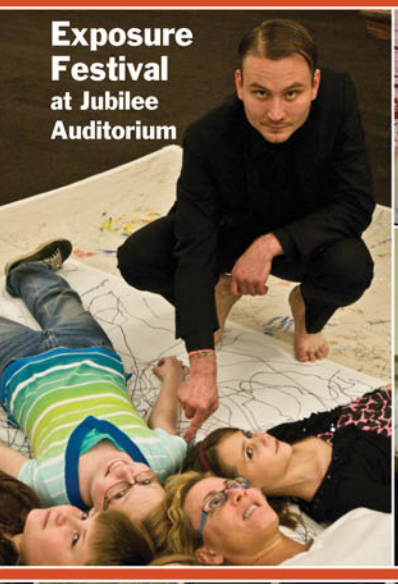
Drag Idol October 28 at Junction

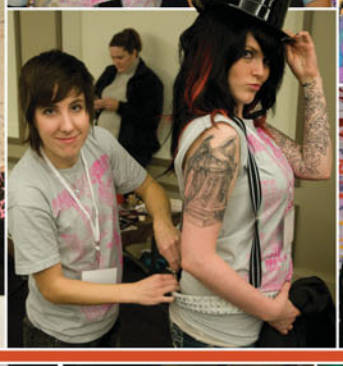
Planning an event in Vancouver? Contact Barry at 604.685.1377 and he'll see about covering it in Out & About. Photos by: Barry Piersdorff

Out & about EDMONTON

Planning an event in Edmonton? Contact jackson@jacksonphotografix.com and he'll see about covering it in Out & About. Photos: jacksonphotografix

Exposure Festival at Jubilee Auditorium





Gaywire on CJSR FM88

Hosts Travis McEwen and Michelle Thomorat

Exposure Loud & Queer Cabaret

Host Darrin Hagen

FairyTales–VIP Party
October 21 at Club Sapien

FairyTales Open House
November 10

Planning an event in Calgary? Contact Perry at pmah@outlooks.ca and he'll see about covering it in Out & About. Photos by: Perry Mah

CALGARY Out & about

Halloween October 30
at Twisted Element and Club Sapien

Out & about TORONTO

Church Street Halloween Block Party

Photos by: Perry Mah

MONTREAL Out & about

Photos: Erick Contreras

OUTLOOKS

CANADA'S **GLBT** MAGAZINE

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SAVINGS...

and don't miss a single issue!

1 Year @ $25 ..... Save 45%*
2 Year @ $45 ..... Save 60%*
3 Year @ $55 ..... Save 70%*

* off suggested retail, GST & HST

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

1-888-228-1157

on-line **OUTLOOKS.CA**

or simply mail in your subscription

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

City: _____ Prov: _____

Postal Code: _____

1 year 10 issues

I have enclosed a cheque for:

Print & Digital:	❑ 1 yr @ $25.00	❑ 2 yrs @ $45.00	❑ 3 yrs @ $55.00
Digital Only:	❑ 1 yr @ $15.00	❑ 2 yrs @ $25.00	❑ 3 yrs @ $35.00

Or please bill my credit card: ❑ VISA ❑ MasterCard ❑ AMERICAN EXPRESS

Account Number: _____

Expiry Date: _____ / _____

Signature: _____

OUTLOOKS Magazine: #303, 1235 - 17th Avenue SW, Calgary, Alberta T2T 0C2

Remember, beginning February 2011, OUTLOOKS Magazine will be available exclusively by subscription and retail sales.

Don't You Wish...

Trevor was born and raised in Houston, Texas. He became very independent and self reliant at a young age, quickly learning the value of hard work and discipline. He started working for himself at the age of 7, doing lawn work for neighbors and any other odd job he could, to pull in money to help his family make it through hard times.

Trevor found his niche in life in his early twenties, pursuing modeling opportunities that led to success as a fitness model. He has since been featured in several fitness and lifestyle publications, gracing the covers and providing workout tips.

Trevor currently works as a massage therapist and fitness trainer, and co-owns his own gym. He also owns his own production company— reviving Broadway shows and producing them locally—and will soon appear on screen in his first movie role.

With a strong passion for animals, Trevor often volunteers at the local animal shelter, and plans to start his ownnon-profit charity to help endangered animals and to find owners for homeless domesticated animals.

To learn more about Trevor Adams, please visit www.trevoradamsgym.com

December/January Horoscope

This winter offers an array of planets that dance in and out of Capricorn and Sagittarius and ultimately into Aqueerius. Let the energies flow as easily as the champagne. Santa wants to know if you've been naughty or nice. Think before responding—you know sometime naughties get the better gift!

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22)
Can money buy happiness? You're tempted to buy gifts galore all through the winter. Gay Archers may alienate partners with their mercenary meanderings if they exceed the spending limit. Demonstrate your devotion in time for the new year festivities, or risk spending that evening with your auntie instead of your sugar daddy or red hot momma.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20)
This is the perfect time to reconnect with friends and get involved in group activities. Pink Caps are going through a transitional phase in their careers, and can gain great insight and direction from others during this tumultuous time. Money is a source of surprises and excess. Try to rein it in so that you have enough dough for some really expensive champagne.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19)
What's mine is mine, and what's yours is mine. Isn't that the way things work? Aqueerians learn the hard way that the more they give the more they get. Karmic compensation demands that you dedicate holiday time to improving conditions in our community. I suspect that all your good gay deeds will be amply rewarded. No, not with cold cash, dear!

PISCES (FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20)
Guppies may experience a spark of romance on the job this winter. But beware of lounging around under the mistletoe at the office party. It may sweep you off your feet and cloud your better judgement. There are a few hidden things that demand inspection and clarification as the weeks progress. Look before you leap, however. Then, if the world is still your oyster, slurp it up!

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)
Gay Rams might be on the verge of a major professional breakthrough. Grab for the corner office as new opportunities present themselves. Try to take a calculated risk. You may experience a temporary financial zetz in the process; but it is worth the cost. Often, giving up a little on the front end reaps bigger rewards on the backend — [MH2]or so they say.

TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)
Travel may have its challenges; but don't let these small bumps in the road run you off the highway. The winter promises to be a time to remember for queer Bulls with a bawdy sense of adventure. I predict either a randy Roman holiday with a few young buckaroos or an unforgettable evening with "roaming Randy" that costs a few buckaroos. Whatta choice!

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)
Pink Twins may be faced with the daunting task of having to choose between the tried and true or the new and exciting, in love this winter. Which way will your heart and your other parts go? The fates spur you to an ultimate decision by electrifying your every word and creating monumental changes in your life with every slip of the tongue. Hmmm, do tell!

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)
An old broom sweeps clean for all meticulous gay Crabs. You secretly yearn for changes in your home life and are now ready to take action. Whether this means a change of residential venue or a frank discussion with a certain family member, it is up to you. Whatever project you undertake, tackle it sooner than later. After that, it's party time and domestic harmony be damned.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUGUST 23)
The next few weeks seem to revolve around your job; but even plucky proud Lions can't concentrate on the day-to-day for long. Finish up old projects and close out the old year. Then draw your attention to mergers and acquisitions — [MH3]in partnerships. If you are still trawling for a big catch, use this time to bait your hook and stick your pole in the water. Feel a nibble??

VIRGO (AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23)
Anything having to do with creative pastimes should be pursued with vigor. Transformative personal changes take place as your great gay muse goes into overdrive. Queer Virgins capture the imaginations of millions, but may be reined in by time constraints between work and play. Remember that sometimes even divas must scrub the bathroom and do laundry.

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23)
Even though your self-confidence might have taken a bit of a beating, gay Libras are full of plucky holiday spirit even through January. Good luck is at hand throughout the month, so ring Out with the old and chime in with the new! Clear away the cosmic debris and welcome the new year like a newborn babe —[MH4] with a bottle in your mouth and in need of a change of underwear.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22)
Queer Scorps manage to party hearty this party hearty season. You're destined to make a big social splash; so dress appropriately (no cellophane underwear, unless requested). At the same time, there may be a few stones tossed in your job path. Keep up on the day-to-day so that you don't get bouldered over or dissipated. But getting stoned might be an option.

(c) 2010 THE STARRY EYE, LLC., All Rights Reserved. For Entertainment Purposes Only. Can't get enough? Join the blog: **www.thestarryeye.typepad.com**.
Lichtenstein's astrology book "*HerScopes*" is an international sensation. Buy it and feel the vibration. Order now at **tinyurl.com/Herscopes**.

Marketplace

You can reach over 148,000 GLBT consumers monthly through 600 local distribution points coast-to-coast as well as online!

Travel

MAKING VACATION DREAMS A REALITY!

Personalized in home or office travel planning services. Air, Adventure Vacations, Cruises, Resorts, Packages, Hotels, Golf Vacations.

Call Mike at (780) 417-5724
or Toll Free 1-866-336-9998

Travel Cruises and more.

WE ALSO DO GROUPS!

Resorts and B&Bs - USA

Palm Springs, California

Beautiful Mountains, Dry Heat, Hot Men.
Book online:
LaDolceVitaResort.com or 1-877-644-4111
Mention *OUTLOOKS* 10% discount
for first time guests.

Resorts and B&Bs - Mexico

PUERTO VALLARTA MEXICO

Boana-Torre Malibu / Condo Hotel, Amapas 325, Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico.

Tel/fax: 011 52 (322) 222-6695,
tel:011 52 (322) 222-0999. www.boana.net
boana@pvnet.com.mx

One block from gay beach. Each unit has one bedroom, two bathrooms, kitchenette, living room, balcony, air-conditioning. Maid service. Gay Vallarta's largest pool. Office open daily 9am-5pm (CT).

Personal Services

BLINK SPA
Toronto

- Laser Hair Removal
- Waxing
- Skin Care
- RMT Massage

blinkspa.ca
416.223.9993

Weddings & Marriages
Immediate or by Appointment
All vows & paper work included
Witness available

• Religion Free • Standard & Specialized Ceremonies
• Cross Cultural • Same Sex GLBT

Rork Hilford MC
Marriage Commissioner for Alberta
AKA (Justice of the Peace - JP) Marriage Officiant
Commissioner for Oaths

hilford@shaw.ca • 403-246-4134

MUSCLE MECHANIC
THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE THERAPY
John 403.803.1594

A.S.K. Calgary

Weekly A.S.K. Meet & Greet / Bonasera Pizza & Sports Bar
1204 Edmonton Trail NE, Calgary, AB
More Info at 403-398-9968
albertasocietyforkink@hotmail.com

Services

SHIFT

works with adults in the sex trade.

We provide services for both those who do not want to exit and those who do.

SHIFT provides:
FREE safer sex supplies, non-judgmental counseling, and more.

403-237-8171

Advertising Rates

Colour or B&W Display Ad

1 column $80
2 column vert. $115
2 column horiz. $140

Line Rate Ads

$20 per headline - 25 letter max and $2 per word, 10 word minimum

Multiple Insertion discounts

3 month 5%
6 month 10%
12 month 15%

Announcements

Wisdom 11:24

"You love everything that exists and hate nothing that you have made."

God loves you and created you gay.

www.createdgay.com

Entertainment

Different Strokes Swim Club:

A very friendly and supportive masters swim club for beginner to advanced swimmers. We work hard at swimming, but we don't neglect the fun!

Come out and join us!

Check practice times and location info at
www.differentstrokescalgary.org

GORGEOUS 1650 sq ft house for rent in Glamorgan, Calgary.

3BDRm + Den, 1 1/2 bath. Close to DWTN, MRU.

Upgraded features and modern colours.

Great home for entertaining. $1485 + Util.

See **rentfaster.ca** for photos. Awesome landlords with references from former tenants if desired.

Call Walt at 403 938 3405 or 403 333 2257

CALL 1-888-228-1157 to Advertise

PHILLIPE & CO.
EXECUTIVE SERVICES

WWW.PHILLIPPE.CA
Facebook: Phillippe Lupin • phillippe01@gmail.com
Calgary: 403.966.2343 • Edmonton: 780.200.6774

The key to having a great massage is to surrender your body totally.
www.ultimatemalemassage.com
403 680 0533

TEXAS LOUNGE
308B 17th Avenue SW
(Back Entrance)
GOLIATHS
Join Us For
New Year's Eve
Dance Party in Goliath's From Midnight to 8am!
Free Champange in the Lounge at Midnight!
Free Food in the Evening!
No Covercharge or Tickets Needed for the Bunker!
GOLIATHS
308B 17th Avenue SW
(Back Entrance)
TEXAS LOUNGE

GET EVENT TIX NOW
OUTLOOKS
A proud media sponsor of
WinterPRIDE
Jan. 30 - Feb. 6, 2011
WHISTLER, BC
gaywhistler.com
gaywhistler
Event passes start at $65
For ski packages and rates call 1.866.787.1966
IGLTA
here!
InterPride
CANADIAN
AIR NEW ZEALAND
Hilton
travelocity
WHISTLER
WHISTLER BLACKCOMB

HOTLOCALGAYCHAT
HARDLINE™
TRY us
FREE!
18+ No liability. Restrictions apply.
calgary 403.770.0776
edmonton 780.665.6666
vancouver 604.677.2424
regina 306.565.8833
saskatoon 306.343.9999
winnipeg 204.480.9898
toronto 416.281.8888
london 519.679.9999
ottawa 613.566.2000
other cities 1.877.628.9696
hardlinechat.com
download our
FREE iPhone App
1.900.451.1441 $25/100min
Text "HARD" to 96669 $5/10min or dial #HUGE (#4843) with Bell, Rogers or Fido calls cost 79 ¢/min plus airtime.

YOUR
BEST
PICKUP
LINE
LOCAL CHAT. TRY IT FREE : code 3205
Calgary 403.777.9494
Edmonton 780.413.7122
Toronto 416.966.6725
Ottawa 613.321.6725
Vancouver 604.639.0606
Halifax 902.431.6725
Winnipeg 204.947.6725
London 519.936.6725
www.cruiseline.ca
Purchase time online now!
CruiseLine
50% off with our new member special. Call customer support for more info: 1.877.882.2005

Tell your doctor if simplified HIV treatments are important to you.

Living with HIV is complicated. While there is no cure, there are simplified treatment options.
How can your treatment be simplified? It's okay to ask your doctor.
Together, you can find the best treatment for you.

www.1withU.ca

1WITH®
U

1withU® is a registered trademark of a research pharmaceutical company.